MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 SEPTEMBER 1980

Iran

In an interview with AFP, former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh has "categorically" denied a report published in the Montreal LA PRESSE that he had "secret contacts" with the State Department over the hostage issue. He declared that "no contacts are necessary in the current circumstances," as the Majlis' decision on the hostages must be made before any further moves are undertaken. He said that the United States should not "decide or ask for anything" before the Majlis adopts an "official position" and that his letter to the Majlis and other statements he has made should provide a "basis of discussion," particularly concerning "technical details" and the conditions for the hostages' release. Qotbzadeh also stated that "direct negotiations" between the United States and Iran are the "best" way to settle the problem and that the break in relations between the two countries does not present a "major obstacle" to the opening of such talks.

AFP reported that two Majlis deputies close to Ayatollah Khomeyni--Mussavi Kho'ini and Ayatollah Baho'oddin Mahallati--have proposed that the Majlis decide whether it is going to take a hard line on the hostage issue before charging the special committee with its duties, for the choice of committee members should reflect what line will be followed. The news agency said four different proposals for determining the composition of the committee will be discussed at the next session of the Majlis.

Arab Unity

Iraq has been quick to confirm the authenticity of a letter President Saddam Husayn sent to the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN in which he affirmed the "unionist will of the Iraqi masses toward Syria." Baghdad radio's Voice of the Arab Masses carried the text of the letter on 16 September, the same day it appeared in AL-WATAN. Husayn stated that the Ba'th Party views Arab unity not only as a "hope or dream," but as a "basic condition and necessity" in defending the Arab nation. He declared that Iraq is "pained" that relations with Syria "are not proceeding on the road to unity," and he said that while the will of the masses constitutes unity's "historical and primary justification," there must also be a "firm and serious political will" for unity that is shared by the leaderships of the two countries. The president stated that Iraq has nothing to fear from unity because its internal political situation has been consolidated, its resources developed and its international role intensified. He said in this regard that Iraq has more "potential" than Syria, as it has a larger land area and population, more resources and a stronger army and that, therefore, its leadership "does not harbor any apprehensions" over establishing unity with a "fraternal state" less endowed in these respects. He admitted that such unity would also be to Iraq's benefit, since it would "provide it with better opportunities for defense and confrontation" in the current situation, more sea outlets and other advantages. Nevertheless, Saddam Husayn made no direct initiative to Syria to establish a forum for improving relations between the two countries, which have seriously deteriorated since the expulsion of diplomatic personnel from Damascus and Baghdad last month, nor did he comment on Iraq's attitude toward possible accession to the Syria-Libya unified state.

In a speech carried by Tripoli radio, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi pledged to make Libyan-Syrian unity a "reality" and warned that henceforth Arab regionalism will become a "danger" to and constitute no "protection" for those who hide behind it. Al-Qadhdhafi said that with the implementation of this unity, "confrontation with the United States and Israel will be inevitable." He reminded his audience that Libya is the "closest place that can be subjected to U.S. aggression" and challenged the United States by saying: "We want the United States to encroach into Libyan waters and air-space, because we will fight it; we will fight it face to face; we will sacrifice."

Israel

According to Jerusalem radio, the ministerial autonomy team "believes" that the document submitted by Ambassador Sol Linowitz containing a proposal for the framework of autonomy has "certain points that contradict" the Camp David accords. The team will meet with Prime Minister Menahem Begin on 17 September to discuss the U.S. documents.

OPEC Conference

Vienna radio reported that the OPEC ministers meeting in Vienna were unable to agree on a new price formula and have thus extended their 2-day conference for another day.

Turkey

Ankara radio carried a speech by Gen Kenan Evren, president of the National Security Council, at at press conference on 16 September in which he further detailed the reasons behind the military takeover of the country. Evren said that Turkish democracy is not "equipped with laws to protect itself" and that as a result the democratic rights of those who wish to "destroy" the system are considered at the expense of the rights of the "virtuous citizen." According to Evren, the country's "constitutional organizations" are "blind" through "permissiveness and tolerance" to attempts to divert Turkish democracy from Ataturk's reforms. He said that Turkish schools at all levels, instead of implementing a "Kemalist education" have disseminated "leftist, rightist or reactionary ideas" and that the "right of association" had been misused, resulting in the transformation of thousands of "associations" into "political organizations" whose aim is to destroy the system. For these reasons, among others, Evren explained, the democratic system in Turkey had been "derailed" and the Turkish armed forces, after issuing several "warnings" that were not heeded, "fulfilled their legal tasks, the wish of the people and the orders of Ataturk." Evren went on to say that had the armed forces not intervened, the situation would have deteriorated to the extent that within a few years "secret and treacherous forces" would have penetrated the armed forces as well and begun dividing them. He went on to say that an "authorized, responsible, viable and adequate" democratic order will be instituted in the country in a "short time," a council of ministers will be fored within a week, a provisional constitution prepared and a constituent assembly formed.

Discussing foreign policy, Evren gave assurances that the new government will honor all Turkey's existing political, economic and security agreements and that "efforts to develop bilateral relations with the United States," the EEC and other Western countries will continue. He also affirmed that the Soviet Union "occupies a special place among our neighbors." Evren stated that all problems with Greece will be solved in a "just manner" through good will and constructive bilateral negotiations and that his government hopes that the Cyprus issue can be resolved through intercommunal talks.

In a question and answer session held after the press conference, reported by Ankara radio, Evren insisted that the United States had not been forewarned of the military takeover. He explained that U.S. AID personnel might have "suspected" the impending events since on the night of 11 September armored units had been positioned near the AID mission. He said the Americans had asked about the presence of these units and had been told they were part of a NATO maneuver that had started that day. "Otherwise," Evren affirmed, "they were not informed of the operation before it was launched."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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IZVESTIYA CHIEF EDITOR GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

LD162234 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] At a meeting in the press club this afternoon between Afghan journalists and Alekseyev, chief editor of IZVESTIYA, member of the CPSU Central Committee, assistant to the international relations department of the Supreme Soviet, and assistant of the USSR Union of Journalists, Alekseyev answered journalists' questions. The meeting, organized by the publicity department of the Ministry of Information and Culture, was also attended by a number of officials of the Ministry of Information and Culture and journalists from the provinces and Kabul city.

The BAKHTAR agency reports that Alekseyev informed the meeting about the union of journalists of the USSR, the policy and work of IZVESTIYA and the role of this daily in the social, political, cultural and educational life of the USSR. He explained the relations between the journalists unions of the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] and promised material and moral support to the Afghan Journalists Union.

The BAKHTAR reporter adds that after these explanations, some of the journalists asked questions about the system of publication of IZVESTIYA, and were given valuable answers to their questions.

Also, two members of Alekseyev's accompanying delegation answered journalists' questions on the mass media in the USSR and the Soviet Union of Journalists. At the end of the meeting the director of the publicity department of the Ministry of Information and Culture thanked Alekseyev and his accompanying delegation on behalf of the Afghan journalists for their valuable explanations, and expressed his desire for the further strengthening of the fraternal friendship between the people of the DRA and USSR.

PRINTING PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH USSR 16 SEP

LD161721 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] A protocol for cooperation in printing between Afghanistan and the USSR was signed in Kabul today.

The protocol was signed on the Afghan side by Dr Hyder Mas'ud, a deputy at the Ministry of Culture and Information concerned with printing, and on the Soviet side by (Anatolyi Jozanov), economic counselor at the USSR Embassy in Kabul. The documents of the protocol have been exchanged.

ULEMA DELEGATION RETURNS FROM TASHKENT CONFERENCE

GF161533 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] The delegation of religious scholars from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan returned home yesterday after attending the conference of Muslim scholars held in Tashkent. One member of the delegation, speaking at Kabul international airport, said that the conference was very interesting and great and that the Afghan religious scholars had explained religious freedom and Afghan issues after the new phase of the Sawr Revolution.

LAGHMAN LEADERS VOW SOLIDARITY WITH GOVERNMENT

LD162150 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] At a meeting in the hall of the public health institute today, a large number of elders, religious leaders, ulema and intellectuals expressed their deep solidarity with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Government.

They promised complete cooperation in implementing the humanitarian ideals of the Sawr Revolution, defense of independence, security of the people, and defense of national honor.

At the beginning of the meeting some verses of the holy Koran were recited and the national anthem of the DRA was played. Then Major General 'Abdol Qader, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council Presidium and chairman of the PDPA Central Committee department of defense and justice, expressed his pleasure, on behalf of the party and government, with this grand meeting of the noble people of Laghman which they convened for the purpose of maintaining security and creating an atmosphere of peace and for the defense of the lofty goals of the Sawr Revolution. He said: After the Sawr Revolution, and particularly after its new development stage, the PDPA and the DRA Government have relied on the strong shoulders of the people for construction of the homeland and security of the people, based on the evolutionary development of society, because revolution is only valued when it is defended by the mass of the people. He added it is a matter of pride that every day the broad mass of our toiling and noble people stand at the side of their revolutionary party and government. They defend the Sawr Revolution and its lofty goals by forming resistance groups.

Colonel Khalil, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the DRA Revolution Council and the commander of the central garrison, then spoke on the savage crimes of the servants of imperialism and the bowl-lickers of reaction, who are becoming obstacles to the implementation of the goals of the Sawr Revolution in our homeland. He requested the cooperation of all the noble, persecuted and oppressed people of Afghanistan in the total elimination of counterrevolutionary elements.

Also at this meeting, Mawlana 'Abdorrahman Mobalegh, on behalf of the religious leaders and elders of the 'Alisheng district of Laghman Province; 'Abdolhadi, on behalf of the elders of the center of Laghman; and Dr Mohammad Amin Safi, on behalf of the intellectuals of Laghman Province, made speeches condemning the traitorous actions of the enemies of the homeland, and promised cooperation and support for their revolutionary party and government. In conclusion, Samad Azhar, member of the DRA Revolution Council, made a statement on support for the party and government.

The meeting ended by issuing a resolution which had been prepared during several meetings of the elders, religious leaders and intellectuals of Laghman Province. It was read by 'Abdol Karim Omarkhil, representative of the noble and toiling people of Laghman Province. In this resolution, the noble and toiling people of Laghman declare their promises and proposals to each other and to their revolutionary party and government, and express their readiness for self-sacrifice in order to implement the humanitarian goals of the Sawr Revolution.

Panjsher Support for Party Resolutions

LD161734 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] A number of the noble people of Panjsher, yesterday went to the (Rashah) district and expressed their full support for the implementation of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee third plenum's resolutions. While expressing their support for the third plenum's resolutions, they made it known to their revolutionary government that they will fight to their last breath against those people who are causing disquiet and engaging in looting and murder.

The district officer and the military commander of the area thanked the noble people of Panjsher for their lofty and patriotic feelings and expressed to them the lofty objectives of the government in securing a peaceful life for the people of our country.

VILLAGERS FORM RESISTANCE GROUP TO FIGHT REBELS

LD162044 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] In the course of forming resistance groups against anti-Sawr Revolution elements, a large number of the fighting and toiling people of the villages of Shahakash and Khojadulghar of the subdistrict of Almar in Maymanah Province today voluntarily formed a resistance group and made themselves ready for war against the rebels--the servants of imperialism.

A large number of the toiling people of that district were present and welcomed the resistance group members with revolutionary slogans and repeated applause. Wished them success in eliminating the enemies of the sacred soil and our revolution.

GHAZNI PARTY ACTIVISTS LEAVE FOR BATTLEFIELD

LD162028 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] In view of the powerful and historic resolutions of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee third plenum, a large number of party activists and members of the Democratic Youth Organization of (Andar) district in Ghazni Province voluntarily left for the battlefield to eliminate the enemies of the toiling people and the progress of beloved Afghanistan.

Before the departure of these patriotic and fighting youths, a few elders of (Andar) district outlined in their speeches the role of the youths and the true fighters in the defense of the honor of the country and the achievements of the Sawr Revolution and said that we, by having such heroes and youths, are certain that in our just struggle against the rebels--these servants of international imperialism, Chinese chauvinism, Pakistani militarism and the world-devouring U.S. imperialism--the success is ours. We shall send the enemies of the revolution to the grave of history.

MAZAR-E SHARIF WELCOMES PARTY ACTIVISTS

LD162020 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] The toiling and sensitive people of Mazar-e Sharif city, the capital of Balkh Province, yesterday welcomed in that city the triumphant and heroic return of the 200 party activists and members of the Democratic Youth Organization of Balkh and Jowzjan provinces who have eliminated in battles the enemies of the revolution and of our sacred soil.

These sacrifice-making youths of the country and of the Sawr Revolution recently eliminated a large group of the rebels in Samangan Province and returned triumphantly to the city of Mazar-e Sharif. A large number of schoolchildren, the people of the city of Mazar-e Sharif and members of the provincial and city committees welcomed our brothers with offerings of bouquets of flowers and continuous applause and asked for their further successes in eliminating the enemies of our country--beloved Afghanistan--and of our revolution, under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

According to a BAKHTAR correspondent's report from the Province of Badakhshan, the noble and toiling people of the city of Feyzabad, yesterday during a meeting welcomed the success of the soldiers and officers of that province who in the war against the enemies of the Sawr Revolution have in a manly manner eliminated the enemies of the sacred soil and of the revolution. Party activists and cadres, soldiers and officers of Badakhshan Province were present at this meeting. Presents of cash were given to the soldiers and officers who had fought against the servants of U.S. imperialism, and their black collaborators.

The BAKHTAR reporter adds that the people at the meeting then went to the martyrs shrines, and after offering prayers for the souls of the keepers of the Sawr Revolution, placed bouquets of flowers on their graves.

RELEASE OF 170 VILLAGERS HELD BY REBELS REPORTED

LD131536 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 13 Sep 80

[Text] According to a report from Nangarhar Province, 170 residents of Zaway village including women, children and old men, who were engaged in their normal social life, were arrested by means of force and harassment 2 and 1/2 months ago by the rebels--these enemies, murderers and men of inhumanity--in the (?Pachiz) and Azad subdistricts of Nangarhar Province.

Security forces and party activists of Nangarhar recently received news of this episode and immediately released the 170 innocent men, women and children from these rebels and professional murderers. The BAKHTAR reporter adds that the faces of these brothers, sisters and innocent children of ours were pale because of the oppressions and cruelties of the rebels.

When they were brought to the party committee of Nangarhar Province, they were welcomed by party and government cadres, and a number of citizens of Jalalabad.

At this time, some of elderly, persecuted men and women tearfully described the inhuman and criminal actions of these lackeys of world devouring U.S. imperialism. They condemned this cruel and inhuman behaviour and expressed their readiness to make any sacrifice in order to eliminate this inhuman band of U.S. servants.

AFP REPORTS SOVIET AIRLIFT ACTIVITY OUT OF KABUL

BK121423 Hong Kong AFP in English 1352 GMT 12 Sep 80

[Text] New Delhi, 12 Sep (AFP)--The Soviet military command in Afghanistan has reinforced its troops fighting the rebels in the countryside north and south-west of Kabul during a three-day airlift operation which ended last Wednesday [10 September], Western diplomatic sources said here today.

Soviet transport helicopters and gunships were seen taking off from Kabul airport at frequent intervals and heading towards north and south-west during the 72-hour day and night operation, the sources said, but failed to back up with details pleading lack of information.

In the north of the Afghan capital, Soviet and Afghan Government troops are believed to be engaged in a fierce fight with the rebels in the strategic Panjshir Valley, which is situated about 160 kms (100 miles) north of Kabul.

The Vardak Province is situated south-west of Kabul. The province has been the scene of rebel activities in the past, earlier reports had said.

Small convoys of T-62 Russian tanks and armoured personnel carriers were also seen commuting between the Soviet Army garrisons in Kabul and the strategic power generating township of Sorobi--halfway between Kabul and Jalalabad, the sources said.

Sorobi was the scene of rebel attacks on September 3, which was successfully repulsed by Soviet troops, earlier reports had said.

The sources noted a reduction in flying of fixed-wing military aircraft from Kabul airport during the last few days. The fixed-wing aircraft are used primarily for bringing troops or war material from the Soviet Union.

Night assassination and kidnapping were continuing in the Afghan capital and other provincial cities, the sources said, but could not give specific details.

There was a renewed appearance of Soviet troops in Kabul last Monday during the daytime, the sources said.

The Soviet-backed Babrak Karmal regime was continuing its massive conscription drive, the sources confirmed.

Wheat, a staple food of the Afghans, has become scarce in Kabul markets and there has been an eight percent price rise during the last two weeks, the sources said. Edible oil, soap and good quality rice were not available in the market.

AFP CITES CONFLICTING VERSIONS ON FIGHTING

BK161437 Hong Kong AFP in English 1215 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] Islamabad, 16 Sep (AFP)--Afghan Armed Forces clashed with Moslem insurgents in Samangan Province west of Kabul yesterday where the Moslem rebels reportedly beseiged the governor's house and local army command hearquarters, Radio Kabul, monitored here, said today.

According to Moslem rebel sources, Afghan Army forces, backed by Soviet troops, came under guerrilla attack in the provincial capital Aybak last week. Fighting in the populous western Afghan province continued for several days and the "enemy troops suffered heavy casualties", the guerrilla command in Peshawar announced.

The anti-Soviet guerrillas fighting communist rule in Afghanistan also surrounded the governor's house and the local army headquarters in Aybak city and "voluntarily" lifted their seige after several hours, the sources said.

However, the state-run Kabul Radio said that in yesterday's "heavy fighting" the Afghan Armed Forces killed and arrested a large number of "terrorists", capturing a large quantity of arms and ammunition. The radio said the captured weapons had been supplied by the United States and China for "subversive" activities in Afghanistan. It added that an official inquiry was underway and the arrested "troublemakers were being interrogated" by the Afghan authorities.

Kabul Radio said that similar operations were carried out in Bahglan and that rebel activities in Taluqon, Takhar and (Surkha Kan) in Laghman were "crushed" two days ago.

Rebel sources said that one Soviet gunship helicopter assisting the government troops in the anti-guerrilla operations crashed near Bamian city killing eight Soviet soldiers abroad. They added that Soviet troops also bombed Aybak city and adjoining areas in the historical Samangan Province forcing the residents to vacate their houses but the Soviet operation was "short-lived" and the local people returned after "the mujahedeen forced the enemy out" of the area.

Moslem rebels also said they had killed 60 Afghan and Soviet troops in Bamian city where the "invading troops" lost three tanks and eight trucks.

The rebles said that heavy Soviet air raids destroyed many houses in (Ghundak), near Darreh-ye Shekari (Shikar pass), in the same province.

Meanwhile, nine Afghan soldiers arrived in Peshawar yesterday after defecting from the Afghan Army in Asmar Province near the Pakistani border, the rebel group, Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan, said. The soldiers belonged to the third battalion of 31st regiment in the Afghan Army's Ninth Division, the sources said.

DPA INTERVIEWS AFGHAN PILOT ON FIGHTING, GDR TROOPS

LD151506 Hamburg DPA in German 1428 15 Sep 80

[Text] Frankfurt (DPA)--Accor'ing to the fugitive pilots of the "Ariana Afghan" airline, GDR specialists are training the country's secret police. In an interview with DPA in Frankfurt, Captain Abdul Rehman also confirmed a BILD-ZEITUNG report (Tuesday's edition) that GDR tank units are fighting alongside the Soviet troops and soldiers from Vietnam, South Yemen and Cuba against the country's liberation movement. All together 400 GDR tanks are said to be in use. The total number of foreign troops is estimated at 200,000. At present, Soviet units with about 2,000 tanks are involved in combat north of Kabul in Panjsher.

According to the pilots and engineers of the airline, most of whom were trained in the United States 1 million Afghans have died since the communist takeover, and more than 100,000 have been executed. A large number of political prisoners are in Kabul prisons, where torture is also often used.

Further Details

DW161437 Hamburg BILD-ZEITUNG in German 16 Sep 80 pp 1, 2

[Wolfgang Pollack report]

[Text] Frankfurt, 16 September--"GDR" soldiers fight side by side with the Soviets in Afghanistan against Muslim freedom fighters, two pilots on the Afghan state airline "Ariana" disclosed yesterday. They fled together with 248 colleagues, stewardesses, flight engineers and family members to the West.

Chief Pilot Habibullah Balchi (47) told BILD-ZEITUNG: "I have information that 400 tanks have been flown in from the 'GDR' 2 1/2 months ago. My colleague Parwez, who has also fled, has seen some; East German airborne divisions are also being used. 'GDR' officers together with the Soviet KGB set up a new and efficient secret police in Kabul."

A Western intelligence service experts said in this connection "normally we learn rather quickly about such voluminous troop movements. So far we had only concrete indications with regard to technical aid by the 'GDR', such as by civilian advisers. But I do not rule out military aid of the 'GDR'."

BILD asked the fled pilot Balchi: Are rumors true that political prisoners are being tortured in Afghanistan?

Balchi: "Yes. Just in the central prison of Kabul and on the military airport Poligon (about 3 kilometers from Kabul) some 64,000 opponents of the regime have been imprisoned. Some of them have been terribly tortured. Their fingernails and foot nails were torn out; bones were broken; and their testicles were crushed. In another prison some of the prisoners were buried alive. In Poligon some prisoners are being used as live targets."

AFGHAN BUSINESS LEADER INTERVIEWED ON STATE OF ECONOMY

For a PRAVDA interview with M. Varma, president of the Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, see the 17 September South Asia section of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

STUDENTS CITE GANDHI ON CIA HAND IN COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

BK161341 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 11 Sep 80 P 7

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 10 Sep (UNI)--A student leader of the Aligarh Muslim University [AMU] today quoted the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, as having said that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of America was 'playing a major role in creating communal trouble' in the country.

A spokesman for the prime minister, when contacted, however, said he was not aware of Mrs Gandhi making any such observation.

In a signed statement the AMU students union secretary, Mr M.A.A. Fatmi, said the prime minister had made the remark when asked about foreign involvement in the incidents of communal violence in several towns.

Mr Fatmi led an AMU students delegation which called on Mrs Gandhi today to appraise her of the situation in riot-hit Moradabad and Aligarh towns.

EDITORIAL NOTES GANDHI CALL FOR DIALOGUE WITH OPEC

BK150944 New Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 9 Sep 80 P 7

[Editorial: Checking Oil Prices]

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi spoke virtually for the entire developing world, when she called for a dialogue with oil producing countries (OPEC) on checking oil price increases. It is no surprise that the forum she chose to make this call--the second regional conference of heads of government of Commonwealth--gave her enthusiastic support. The instant reaction of the participants reflects the general mood of the countries towards the oil management by the OPEC. Without sounding pessimistic, Mrs Gandhi pleaded that the poor nations be spared from the back-breaking burden of the oil price hikes. Coming in the wake of reports of another possible hike in oil price this call from a country which has been an uncompromising friend of the Arab world and a true champion of the cause of the poor nations should be taken seriously. India was in the forefront in the late sixties defending the right of the oil producing countries, majority of whom are in West Asia, to increase prices of their oil in proportion to the rise in prices of Western capital goods. But few expected that the chain reaction set off by the unending and periodic rise in oil price would become the major cause for world-wide inflation and a formidable constraint on the developmental process, seriously hurting the poor countries. The oil bill of the non-oil developing countries has risen from $22.1 billion in 1975 to $57.8 billion in 1980 and is estimated to go up to $107 billion in 1985 and to $200 billion in 1990. This oil onslaught has increased their deficit from $8.3 billion in 1970 to as much as $61 billion in 1980. This is likely to go up to $78.4 billion in 1985 and to $104.2 billion in 1990. While the poor non-oil developing countries have languished due to increasing import bills and falling export earnings, the OPEC has collected a hugh surplus of $115 billion. Oil prices went up by 130 percent in the last two years alone. There have been a number of suggestions to mitigate the hardships faced by the poor nations. A 10-member experts group appointed by the Commonwealth Secretariat has recommended recycling of petrodollars for the developing nations. It has suggested that a $40-billion fund should be set up in the next two years for the purpose. The Brandt commission has also suggested setting up of a world development fund by 1983 with a capital of $10 billion.

However, concrete steps in this regard are yet to be taken. In the meantime, the oil burden has been having repercussions not only on the economic front, but on the political climate of the Third World as well.

The resentment growing all around does not augur well for the solidarity of the developing world. Despite their present affluence, the future of the oil-producing developing countries is irrevocably linked with the fate of the Third World. This bond could be preserved only if the poor Third World does not become poorer because of actions by oil-producing developing nations. It is to be hoped that these nations would see Mrs. Gandhi's call in the right perspective and help evolve ways to provide relief to the developing countries and strengthen their solidarity.

PRIME MINISTER'S SPECIAL ENVOY LEAVES FOR LIBYA

BK161320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] Union Minister for Works and Housing P.C. Sethi left for Rome on his way to Libya. Sethi is visiting Libya as special emissary of the prime minister.

Among some things he is likely to discuss with Colonel al-Qadhadhafi is the OPEC policy regarding assistance to oil-importing developing countries. He will also present India's case for the supply of crude on more favorable terms.

SUPREME COURT RESTRAINS GOVERNMENT FROM DEPORTING AFGHAN

BK151546 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 15 Sep 80

[Text] New Delhi, 15 Sep (AFP)--The Indian Supreme Court today restrained the government of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi from deporting an Afghan national against his will to any other country, particularly Afghanistan, where he feared "slaughter for political reasons."

Mohammad Amin Wakman has been working in the Pashto language unit of the state-run All-India Radio.

The stay, granted by a division bench of the highest court of the land comprising Chief Justice Y. V. Chandrachud and two other justices, would remain in force for three weeks from today pending disposal of the case.

In his petition to the highest court of India, Mr Wakman said if he is deported against his will to Afghanistan where he is persona-non-grata there is every likelihood of his being deprived of his liberty and life without a fair trial.

The Afghan national fears that the government might any day arrest him and illegally deport him to Afghanistan under "foreign pressure".

Mr Wakman, working in the Ministry of Information and Culture of Government of Afghanistan from 1966, came to India on January 11, 1975 on 5-year contract with the Indian Government. He was also studying at a university here.

He was a founder member of Afghan Mallet Party in 1966. After the change in government, the Afghanistan Government asked the Indian Government to terminate his contract and send him back to Afghanistan. The services of the petitioner were terminated on January 20, 1979.

50,000 TONS OF RICE TO BE SUPPLIED TO SRV

BK151303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Sep 80

[Text] India is giving an interest-free commodity loan of 50,000 tons of rice to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi today. Under the agreement, rice supplies to Vietnam will be made during September-November this year.

SHAHI DEPARTS FOR MOROCCO, NEW YORK UN SESSION

BK170633 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi left Karachi for Morocco this morning to attend the extraordinary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference. The meeting, which begins in Fes tomorrow, will study the Palestine issue.

Agha Shahi, who is also the present chairman of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, will proceed to New York from Morocco where he will lead the Pakistani delegation at the 35th session of the UN General Assembly. Shahi will also accompany President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq when the latter addresses the UN General Assembly session as a respresentative of the Islamic community on the 1st of next month.

KUNA: SHAHI CALLS FOR USE OF OIL WEAPON AGAINST ISRAEL

LD130852 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0737 GMT 13 Sep 80

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Sep (KUNA)--In a press statement issued here today, Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi called on Arab countries to use oil as a weapon to pressure the United States into forcing Israel to withdraw from occupied Arab territories. In a statement published by AL-'ANBA, he said the initiative to use this weapon depends totally on "the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates."

Shahi added he believes Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn Abd al-'Aziz' call for a holy jihad against Israel falls within this framework and not within the military framework He said: "What Crown Prince Fahd hinted at and means, in my opinion--through my c acts with him--is not to resort to military actions or weapons but to use the oil weapon, because it is the only way in the view of the majority of countries to change U.S. viewpoints and policies in support of Israel."

The Pakistani minister urged the Arabs "to unite in solidarity to destroy foreign attempts against the region."

DEFENSE MINISTER DEPARTS FOR MONTREAL 14 SEP

BK141046 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 14 Sep 80

[Text] Defense Minister Mir Ali Ahmed Khan Talpur left Karachi this morning for Montreal to attend the 23d General Assembly session of the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO]. He will lead the eight-member Pakistan delegation at the session which begins in Montreal on Tuesday. Five members of the delegation accompanied the minister while the remaining three including the deputy leader of the delegation who is also Pakistan's permanent representative at the ICAO will join them in Montreal.

The ICAO session will elect a president and vice president of the General Assembly and discuss details of international civil aviation authority and allied matters. It will also review the air transport economic situation. Pakistan, which is already a member of the ICAO council, will seek reelection at the session.

The defense minister will also attend the UN General Assembly session on 1 October when President Gen Mohammad Haq will address the world body on behalf of the entire Muslim ummah [community] on the advent of 15th century Hegira.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON LIBYAN-SYRIAN MERGER

LD162014 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued a statement in connection with the Syrian-Libyan merger. The statement is as follows:

In His exalted name. The daily increasing efforts of the superpowers to penetrate the region and the efforts of certain rulers in the area aimed at creating opportunities for such penetration have been instrumental in the spread of suspect groupings between the leaders and responsible authorities of the countries in the region. The aim behind such activities is none other than to trample underfoot the interests and cause of the weak nations and the oppressed and toiling peoples. The path which these rulers are following will have no other result than ever greater subservience by the governments concerned to the Eastern and Western superpowers and increasing pressure on the nations.

Among the governments leaning toward either the left or right, what the Egyptian Government perpetrated staggered even the most reactionary and venal countries in the region and aroused universal revulsion among the nations. Alliance with and friendship for the regime occupying Jerusalem is something no one could tolerate. Therefore, the Egyptian Government was expelled from all the forums in the region, and the Arab governments ostensibly broke off their relations with that country. However, regrettably, since that decision was neither serious nor decisive and thanks to Egypt's seeking refuge behind the skirts of the United States and its receiving of financial and military aid, the effect of the Arab and Islamic countries' action was neutralized for all intents and purposes.

Another example is seen in the activities currently taking place in the Persian Gulf under Iraq's auspices. Under the guise of not having diplomatic relations with the United States and its illusory and hypocritical struggle against that country, the Iraqi regime has succeeded in striking a revolutionary pose and thereby gather around itself the reactionary governments and friends of the United States. It is a fact their final aim is to amass their forces and to hatch plots against the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. What Iraq has in mind, at the inspiration of other countries, is to replace the shah's regime in the region and to act as the gendarme of the Persian Gulf. The dangerous consequences of this subservient power [as heard] is that the Iraqi Government already wishes to impose its sovereignty, which it has obtained by spending thousands of millions of dollars from the country's budget and by leaning toward the West, over other governments in the region. And this will be effected, either peacefully as evidenced by Iraq's various visits to and agreements with other regimes in the region, or by resorting to force, the effects of whic we will see with our own eyes in the future--very likely in the form of coups d'etat.

The factors which have increased the region's sensitivity and the dangers from the East and West which could at any moment threaten the unarmed and hand-tied nations of the region are the following:

1. Afghanistan's occupation by Soviet Russia's forces and their bloody clashes with the Muslim mojahedin.

2. The United States' abortive military attack on Iran, possible future assaults and planned coups d'etat by the enemies of revolution which are about to be launched under the aegis of the United States, and the possibility of another plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. Iraq's expansionism and that country's soft and hard assaults against Iran's borders, which have caused anxiety and disquiet among the nations and governments in the area.

4. The aggressions committed against southern Lebanon by the occupation Regime in Jerusalem, and that regime's expansionism and its choice of Jerusalem as its new capital--a fact which has given rise to a wave of anxiety and disquiet among all the Islamic nations.

5. The disturbances in Turkey which culminated in a military coup.

In view of all the disturbances and discord arising from colonialist expansionism and excessive ambitions, and the acts of subservience by certain governments in the region culminating in clashes between and reaction by various governments, everyone--according to his intellectual level--feels a deep need for union and alliance. Certain people who wish to strengthen their position have this feeling, while others are trying to gain greater power in order to confront the superpowers.

Among these various unions and solidarities, which often do not stem from the people and the masses' wishes, the union and cohesion between the two fraternal governments of Syria and Libya enjoy certain special characteristics. What is noteworthy is that both these two countries have, in the past, made attempts to establish union and cohesion with other neighboring countries. This is demonstrative of the sincere and genuine feelings which these countries harbor for union and monolithic unity and their desire for unity to confront the sworn enemies of the peoples of the region. It is noteworthy that this union is taking place at a time when the Syrian Government is being attacked from within and without by overt and covert hands. Its forces in Lebanon are confronting Israel and its agents, while the Iraqi Government and certain other Arab governments are launching an extensive propaganda campaign against Syria. But what is more important is that, for some time now, it has been subjected to pressure by the reactionary governments of the region and by the superpowers so that it will accept the indignity of supporting the Camp David agreement.

This union, which should be the precursor to a more all-embracing union of all the Islamic nations, despite all its possible shortcomings, inspires hope. We hope that the motto and the demand of this union will be the cohesion and monolithic unity of the Muslims. The power of the Islamic nation as a whole is beautifully demonstrated in the might and efficiency of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and, no doubt, it could be the start of better things to come.

The other aim of such a union should be to confront polytheism and any subservience to either East or West or any superpower. When the nations are ready to give their blood and fight for the glory of Islam and for the Muslims, why should one not take advantage of these gifts and utilize them actively?

We harbor no other aspiration save that of the victory of the weak nations and the crushing of the superpowers and the arrogant, and we see the realization of such an aspiration only in the monolithic unity of the nations and the Islamic nation.

[Signed] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FOREIGN MINISTRY CABLES HABIB CHATTI ON JERUSALEM CONFERENCE

LD151818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Sep 80

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Bureau, the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran today announced: Mr Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, has asked the views of all the member countries of the conference including Iran concerning the invitation of the Moroccan Government to investigate the issue of noble Jerusalem on 17 September 1980. The answer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran that was sent by cable from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran is as follows:

Your Excellency Mr Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference. I am surprised that the Secretariat of the Islamic Conference is providing the opportunity for the question of Palestine and noble Jerusalem to be put in the hands of the elements dependent upon American imperialism.

In our view, raising this issue in Morocco will not be a (contribution) to the liberation of Jerusalem, especially as in the 11th session of the conference of Islamic countries in Islamabad I clearly expressed opposition to Hassan II as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee. It was said there that this matter is temporary and this period of chairmanship will come to an end. We hope these issues will be solved in a climate of understanding before they take the form of a clash.

Therefore, if the issue of Palestine necessitates a special session, why should not this session be held in the holy cities of Medina or Mecca, which are respected by all Muslims of the world and which also enjoy the dynamism of political propaganda against the occupationist Israel?

If this is not possible, I hereby express my agreement to the holding of a special session in Algeria, Syria, Kuwait or the Arab Emirates. Also, although the [words indistinct] conditions may not be very suitable, nevertheless Iran expresses its readiness to act as the host of the special session of the ministers of foreign affairs.

PRIME MINISTER SENDS MESSAGE TO ISLAMIC STUDENTS IN EUROPE

LD162050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i sent a message today in reply to the message of congratulations by the Union of Islamic Students Associations in Europe on his election as prime minister. According to a PARS report the full text of this message is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Dear brothers and sisters, I am grateful for your affectionate message of congratulations.

This message conveys the profound sentiments of those sisters and brothers who, in order to disseminate the message of the revolution, suffered the most dire ordeals in the struggle against the oppressors, the subservient and heinous agents of the United States and the aggressors against the rights of Muslims. Reports of their exemplary resistance--which are more like that of Imam Husayn and his sister Zaynab--daily reach us from the prisons of oppression and injustice. Their cry of "God is great" has truly spelled the disgrace of these pretenders of freedom and proponents of human rights.

Today, more than ever, we need the unity of Muslims--Muslims who, being inspired by the guidelines of the imam of the Islamic nation, will bring to the ears of all the world peoples the message of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and who will strive for the destruction of the oppressive regimes and their venal toadies, who will lay down their lives, wealth and children and who will be convinced that right is victorious over wrong, and those people who will spread the genuine aspirations of our revolution and echo the pleading cry of our people who have triumphed in their battle against the most advanced and awesome weapons with their clenched fists, thanks to their unity, reliance on Islam and dependence on God Almighty.

Today, more than ever, the meek of the world are fixing their eyes on your actions in various parts of the globe. O messengers of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, they are thirsting for Islam's dynamic message. Through reliance on God Almighty and remembering Islamic peity we can triumph over wrong.

I beseech God to grant success to all my sisters and brothers.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH U.S., HOSTAGES

Beheshti Press Conference

NC171052 Paris AFP in English 1044 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 17 (AFP)--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni has outlined the conditions for the release of the U.S. hostages held in Iran, now it is up to parliament to work out the details and interpretations of these conditions, Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti told a press conference here today.

Asked how long the special parliamentary committee might take to decide on the fate of the 52 hostages, Ayatollah Beheshti said time was no great matter. "We want to reach our goal," he said.

Ayatollah Beheshti, who leads the fundamentalist Islamic Republican Party which dominates parliament, said that, in his opinion, the hostage debate should enable Iran to judge the "hegemonist and imperialist policy of the United States and its allies."

The documents found in the U.S. Embassy here showed that the American diplomats had overstepped their diplomatic role, he said. But he did not refer to the diplomats as spies.

Speaking of the special committee to be set up to deal with the hostage problem, Ayatollah Beheshti said this committee should adopt positions "strict, conscious and conform to Islam." The matter would then be returned to parliament which would take the final decision he said.

Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeyni, has repeatedly said that it was up to parliament to decide the fate of the hostages held here since November 4. In a speech on Friday. he laid down four conditions for the release of the hostages: the return of the late shah's wealth to Iran, the waiving of U.S. demands against Iran, the unfreezing of Iranian assets in the United States, and a guarantee from the United States not to interfere politically or militarily in Iran's affairs.

Yazdi Call for Trial

LD161341 [Editorial Report] Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 11 September carries on page 16 the report by the KEYHAN correspondent in Shiraz of a press, radio and television conference held at the KEYHAN representative office in Shiraz [date not specified] by Majlis Deputy and Former Minister Dr Ibrahim Yazdi. In the discussion, Dr Yazdi reportedly expressed concern over the fact that some of Prime Minister Raja'i's nominees for ministerial posts lacked any sort of managerial experience. On the economic and social situation in the country, Dr Yazdi expressed the view that Iran was passing through a transitional period. In reply to a question asking for his views on the hostages issue, Dr Yazdi reportedly said:

"We must put America's deeds in Iran on trial, putting the hostages up as witnesses. I believe that to let them go free would mean a kind of treachery, since our differences with America and the clouded relations will not be resolved by freeing the hostages. We must put America on trial and claim reparations for the damage caused by the 27 years of the shah's regime in Iran." The interview concludes with remarks by Dr Yazdi on the role of newsmen in "containing unrest."

U.S. Reportedly Seeks Algerian Aid

GF131909 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 9 Sep 80 p 1

[Tamam al-Barazi dispatch from London]

[Text] Informed sources in London have said U.S. President Carter sent a high-ranking government delegation to Algeria in mid-August to seek President Chadli Bendjedid's mediation with Iran to facilitate the release of the U.S. hostages.

The sources added that Bendjedid telephoned President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, who told him that positive developments in the hostages issue could occur.

The well-informed sources said that President Bani-Sadr told the Algerian president that the hostages would be tried by a temporary court on the charge of espionage and then expelled in view of their official diplomatic status in return for the United States' unfreezing of Iranian assets--estimated at $8 billion--in U.S. banks.

The sources added that the Algerian endeavors clashed with an awkward Iranian demand for the return of the late shah's wealth, estimated at $45 billion, in return for the hostages' release--a condition totally rejected by the United States.

Members of the Iranian National Security Council believe that the Americans are using the Algerians to gain time until the presidential elections after which they would launch a new "invasion" following the failure of the Tabas operation.

The Iranian chief of staff, General Fallahi, appears to be among the main members of the Iranian National Security Council who subscribe to this view. The well-informed source quote him as saying at the National Security Council meeting about 10 days ago that there were clear signs of a U.S. military operation against Iran in view of the stationing of 1,900 U.S. soldiers in Diego Garcia and the transfer of 900 others to a U.S. base in a country close to Iran.

General Fallahi does not exclude the possibility of the United States using nuclear warheads in its expected aggression against Iran. However, some observers in London believe otherwise.

ROK Charge on Hostages

LD161125 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 1 Sep 80 p 13

[PARS NEWS AGENCY report: "South Korea Asks for Peaceful Solution to Hostages Problem"]

[Text] Tehran--In an exclusive interview with the PARS correspondent yesterday (Chang Boom Lee), charge d'affaires at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, replied to numerous questions concerning relations between the Islamic Republic and the ROK.

Condemning any military intervention by the superpowers, he declared groundless comment by certain sections of the Lebanese press which had reported a plot by the ROK against Iran's Islamic Revolution.

Our correspondent asked (Chang Boom Lee) about one (Che Hyun Chil) who, according to the aforementioned source, was a member of the South Korean Security Organization (KCIA) and who had entered Iran after the revolution on the orders of the [U.S.] CIA under cover of [the authority of] the supervisor of the Islamic Institute. The charge d'affaires said:

"I have no information whatever on this person and I do not know when and how he entered Iran. However, I do know that several months ago three Koreans arrived in Tehran at the invitation of the Iranian authorities to participate in the Islamic conference and it was possible that (Che) was one of these."

In the interview (Lee) declined to comment on military measures by the superpowers in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf region, and on the subject of the spy hostages he said: "It would be better not to put the hostages on trial, and this problem should be solved peacefully." Referring to the development in economic relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and South Korea, the ROK charge d'affaires said:

"During the last month alone the volume of business between the two countries exceeded $120 million, while during the whole of the previous year the figure was $170 million. [paragraph continues]

We have in practice condemned economic sanctions by America and the West, and if the Iranian Government will guarantee the supply of raw materials to the factories which Korean engineers and laborers ran before the revolution, the South Korean companies are ready to renew their activities."

The ROK charge d'affaires than stated that the total number of Korean nationals in Iran before the revolution was 13,000 and then there were now 900.

He then referred to the cancellation of the contract for the joint petrochemical complex which was to have been built in this country by Iran and South Korea, saying: "Since the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran requested the cancellation of the contract, the South Korean Government agreed to the request and $17 million, representing Iran's 50-percent share, was paid over."

Mr (Lee) claimed that there were 15,000 Muslims living in South Korea and that within 2 years an Islamic university, which had been planned before Iran's Islamic Revolution, would be ready to admit students of the Islamic sciences. He then referred to the shortage of experts in the Islamic sciences in South Korea and asked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to send a team of researchers and Islamic scholars to South Korea to expound and expand Islamic culture.

RAFSANJANI MEETS WITH PLO OFFICIALS 17 SEP

LD171108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau correspondent's report, Hani al-Hasan, member of the central council and former ambassador of the PLO in Iran, together with Abu Walid, another member of Fatah, met and had talks with Hojjat ol-Eslam va Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, in the Majlis this morning. During this meeting important problems of the Middle East region, recent acts of aggression by the Zionist enemy and also the union between the two states of Syria and Libya were subjects of talks and discussions.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

National Security Council Meeting

LD161654 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] According to a PARS report, the National Security Council met this afternoon in the joint headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic with the participation of Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and the commander in chief of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister and deputy commander of the joint staff of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the ministers of foreign affairs and national defense; the commanders of the army, navy, gendarmerie and the guards corps of the Islamic Revolution and the heads of the police and the headquarters for the mobilization of the oppressed people.

In this meeting, which lasted for many hours, the latest developments on the border between Iran and Iraq were discussed and certain decisions were reached on the strengthening and further solidarity of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khorramshahr Reported Calm

GF161326 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] Khorramshahr operational headquarters, in a statement to PARS in Abadan today, announced:

The Shalamcheh border area near Khorramshahr has been calm from last night until 1030 today. There have been no new skirmishes.

According to this report, the Khorramshahr governor, accompanied by the leader of the 3d naval group, visited the (Shalamcheh) border this morning. The headquarters also announced that the morale of the Islamic Republic's soldiers is very high and they are on alert.

Qasr-e Shirin Border Clashes

JN161822 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] According to the latest PARS report from the border areas, clashes erupted anew in the Qasr-e Shirin border area when Iraqi Ba'th forces opened artillery fire. The forces of the Islamic Republic returned heavy fire. The report adds that the clashes were still continuing when the report was prepared, and that the sound of the enemy's artillery is clearly heard in the city.

A funeral for 18 soldiers martyred during the recent border clashes was held in Tehran today. Dozens of Muslim Iranian sons participated in the funeral.

Clashes in Naftshar

LD170926 Tehran PARS in English 0832 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 17 Sep (PARS)--Clashes have been occurring between the mercenaries of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and the defenders of the Islamic Republic of Iran during the past 48 hours near Naftshar. The Sumar district governor told PARS reporter that telephone connections out of Naftshar were out with other parts of the country and this communication was possible only through the telephone facilities of the oil installations. The last clash in this region occurred between 5-7 pm on Monday.

In another development, a clergyman in Qasr-e Shirin told PARS that clashes occurred in Tag-e Ab Now region yesterday morning. Following the clash which started at 2 a.m. Monday between the Ba'thist lackeys of Iraq, heavy casualties were inflicted upon the Iraqi lackeys. No casualties were reported among the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Meanwhile, the Qasr-e Shirin border strip was calm yesterday morning. The units of the ground forces, the gendarmerie and the revolutionary gaurdsmen had the frontier area completely under control.

Meanwhile, the inhabitants of Hopazeh, in Dasht-e Azadegan in Khuzestan Province, in the south west of Iran announced their support for the army personnel, revolutionary guardsmen and gendarmerie officers who were protecting the country at its frontiers. They also announced that they were completely ready to accept and looking forward to Imam Khomeyni's order for defending their country.

Further Report on Clashes

LD170924 Tehran PARS in English 0817 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 17 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--In an announcement yesterday, the 64th Urumiyeh armoured division said that when an army column was approaching Mahabad, in the west of Iran, on Monday it confronted a group of armed insurgents. In the ensuing clash all nine insurgents were killed but the army suffered no casualties. The 64th Urumiyeh armoured division warned all illegally armed groups to hand over their arms and ammunition to the gendarmerie posts or the offices of the revolutionary guards by 12 noon yesterday otherwise all those who would be arrested in this respect would be submitted to a military tribunal to receive punishment.

Meanwhile, the public relations office of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards announced yesterday that the escorting revolutionary guards were faced with the Ba'thist mercenaries in the Javanrud region, in the west of Iran, during which four of the guards were martyred. Also yesterday morning a group of armed assailants attacked the Qasr-e Shirin Revolutionary Guards headquarters and clashed with them for two hours.

During the clash the guards inflicted heavy casualties on the insurgents. The assailants were able to take the bodies of those killed or wounded during the incident with them and fled.

On Monday army forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed the Banmil gendarmerie border outpost in Iraqi territory as well as a number of Iraqi tanks and vehicles. In another clash between the Iranian forces and Ba'thist forces of Iraq in the Naftshar border area two more Iraqi outposts were severely damaged. Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi, head of the Khorramshahr Revolutionary Guards Corps told PARS that during the past few days thousands of militant people of Lorestan Province had referred to him and announced their readiness to be dispatched to the western border areas to fight against the counterrevolutionaries and the insurgents.

Army Warning

LD171042 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] The West Azarbayjan governor general's political deputy, speaking in an interview with a correspondent of the Urumiyeh news unit, described the situation in the province as almost completely calm. Referring to the army's rapid advance in the southern regions of West Azarbayjan, he said that the armed forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the gendarmerie and the revolution guards corps have successfully entered Mahabad and have occupied the city's sensitive centers.

He added that, in the light of the particular situation in Mahabad, the commander of the Urumiyeh 64th division has warned illegal armed forces that should they cause trouble or resist the armed forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic, who are doing their lawful duty, the army will act with decisiveness and crush any resistance.

Iranian Successes

LD171100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] According to a PARS report from Ahvaz, at 1450 yesterday hostile Iraqi forces attacked Iran's Safargin post, but they were confronted by fire returned by military brothers stationed at the border. In the clash, which continued until 2100 last night, the Iraqi (Safarriyah), (Tawusiyah), Shayb, (Butkah) and (Rashidiyah) posts and an Iraqi oil well adjacent to the Shayb post were destroyed thanks to the cooperation and coordination between the gendarmerie, guards corps, the army and air force brothers. According to the political-administrative deputy of the Khuzestan governor general, the Iraqi (Butkah) post's ammunition dump and 14 Iraqi tanks were destroyed in the course of the clash. Iranian Armed Forces stationed on the border resisted the mercenary Ba'thist Iraqi forces with courage and extremely high morale [passage indistinct].

Meanwhile, the Khuzestan Health and Welfare Department has announced that 11 brothers from the gendarmerie, the guards and the military were injured in the clashes and that the condition of all of them is improving. No accurate information is available regarding the casualties suffered by the Iraqi forces, but bearing in mind the damage caused to the posts which were destroyed it is probable that the Iraqi forces suffered heavy casualties.

Majlis Committee Request

LD161216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] The Defense Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly today issued a statement for the mass media. The text of the statement is as follows:

Recently it has been frequently observed that certain military matters concerning the western part of the country--particularly concerning Iraq--have been published by the mass media, particularly the press, causing concern among military officials and members of the Jamlis Defense Committee. An example of this is the banner headline in a mass circulation evening paper about the occupation of Khan Leyli. For this reason the committee requests the mass media, particularly the press, to fully observe security so that matters cannot be exploited by the enemy and to obtain military reports solely from the joint staff's ideological political bureau or from the public relations office of the joint staff of the western region of the country.

GOVERNOR GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS IN IRANIAN KORDESTAN

LD160953 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 10 Sep 80 p 19

[Unnamed KEYHAN correspondent report: "Government Has No Control Over Regional Offices in Mahabad and Kurdish-Inhabited Areas"]

[Text] Kermanshah--In a discussion with correspondents sent to Urumiyeh by the news center for the west of the country, West Azarbayjan Governor General Hoseyn Taheri stated:

"After calm has been restored to the Kurdish areas, we shall send a delegation to repair the ruin and damage suffered by the people. With security restored, a land reform program and the total elimination of the feudalists will be accomplished by the land assignment board, which is already at work in Mahabad."

On the continuation of the administrative purge in the Kordestan region, the West Azarbayjan governor general said: "Naturally, if we act decisively, the ordinary, blameless people will not suffer, and for this reason we wish to operate in a manner that will stop the counterrevolutionaries in the region while not harming the people."

He then emphasized: "Of course, courtesy and consideration shown has not produced a result; counterrevolutionaries have taken advantage of the situation and have installed themselves in the area; we are now obliged to take decisive measures while there is still time and the border can be sealed."

In reply to the KEYHAN correspondent's question: "Is there any likelihood of a direct attack in the area by Iraq and its lackeys?" The governor general said: "Agents and supporters of the old regime such as Bakhtiar, fugitives of the satanical regime, capitalists and committed local supporters are trying by various means to create dissatisfaction and agitation, and when such a situation has been created there is the danger of a direct attack. We have taken the necessary precautionary measures to forestall this."

As to the rumor spread by local counterrevolutionaries to the effect that, as soon as the guards corps arrives, it will bring pressure to bear on the people and harass and molest them, he said: "The counterrevolutionaries have been using this method for a long time, and their intention is to distort the true image of the revolutionary organizations.

"The guards form a part of the upright, revolutionary forces, and they have risked their lives for the people's safety. It make no difference to them whether the people are Turks or Kurds or anything else."

On the recent reasons for the stoppage of salary payments to civil servants in Mahabad and Bukan, the governor general said: "Unfortunately, at present neither the governor general's office nor any other government organ has any control over the government offices in this area, and because of the lack of security on the highways it is not possible to travel to investigate this business.

"For this reason, the forces of counterrevolution have penetrated these government offices and organizations and are acting against the Islamic Republic of Iran, using its budget to do so.

"We have therefore decided that no further payments of any kind should be made to the government offices and organizations until further notice.

"Of course, all the noble, Muslim people of Mahabad support the Islamic Republic of Iran and will put a stop to the activities of lackey and dependent agents who have caused harm and loss to the inhabitants of the area."

On the rumor of a counterrevolutionary army stationed on the border and the subject of how a mopping up operation might take place in the area without harm to the townsfolk, he said: "The reported presence of a large counterrevolutionary army on the border is no more than a rumor aimed at alarming and terrifying the peoples; but the truth is that there are counterrevolutionary groups and that in general they support America, our main enemy."

LE MONDE INTERVIEWS KORDESTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICIAL

LD161607 Paris LE MONDE in French 7-8 Sep 80 p 4

[Jean Gueyras interview with Kordestan Democratic Party Central Committee member (Hedi) in Paris: "Army Preparing To Take Control of Mahabad, Kordestan's Capital"--date of interview not given]

[Text] The power struggle in Tehran has taken precedence in the news over reports on the real war between government forces and Kurdish autonomists which has been going on in Kordestan for almost 1 year. The army's violent offensives in August 1979 and April 1980 enabled it to regain control over most of Kordestan's big cities. However, calm is far from having been restored and, although major military operations are no longer being reported, there are frequent clashes between the peshmerga (Kurdish guerrillas) and the army soldiers and pasdaran (revolution guards).

During a brief stop in Paris, Mr (Hedi), a member of the Central Committee of the Kordestan Democratic Party [KDP]--the main Kurdish political and military force--assessed the situation for LE MONDE. He said that there is in practice no frontline separating the warring factions, which overlap throughout the region. The government forces and pasdaran occupy the main cities in the Kurdish regions (Kermanshah, Sanandaj, Saqqez, Baneh, Marivan and so forth) but most villages and road networks are controlled by the peshmerga operating from their rear bases in the mountains. The government garrisons are isolated and are supplied by air and use mainly helicopters to harrass the guerrillas. The peshmerga, however, control several villages close to the Iraqi border, including Sar Dasht, Bukan and Piranshahr.

Mahabad, Kordestan's political capital, is in a special situation: The army and peshmerga are coexisting in the streets of this city while the pasdaran are quartered in the cultural center which they have turned into their headquarters. The Tehran authorities sent an ultimatum to the KDP 1 month ago, demanding the withdrawal of the pershmerga from Mahabad. "We agreed to withdraw our forces," Mr (Hedi) told us, "on condition that the pasdaran leave the city. An agreement was reached on this basis but has not been respected. Several signs show that the government forces are preparing to launch an offensive to take complete control of Mahabad. In this case we have decided not to resist the army within the built-up area in order to avoid a repetition of the massacres and destruction which plunged Sanandaj, Saqqez and Baneh into mourning last spring."

Mr (Hedi) estimates that some 140,000 refugees have fled these cities and have been divided among the surrounding villages. "Saqqez now has no more than 7,000 inhabitants; Sanandaj, Kordestan's administrative capital, has been emptied of around three-fourths of its population and 10,000 people have left Marivan. Baneh, moreover, is no more than a mass of ruins inhabited only by a few old people obstinately attached to what remains of their homes."

Soldiers Obeying Tehran

Contrary to a widespread opinion, Mr (Hedi) believes that it is Tehran's regular army which is waging the main part of the war in Kordestan. The pasdaran who are operating in the army's wake are responsible for maintaining "Islamic order" in the "pacified cities." "It is true," he said, "that around 1 year ago the soldiers showed some reservations about fighting. However, the situation has since changed. The army has been purged of its moderate elements and taken in hand by the Tehran authorities. [President] Bani-Sadr and his friends are not the 'liberals' they are thought to be in the West and bear full responsibility for all that has happened in Kordestan in the past year."

Mr (Hedi) also questions the behavior of some leftwing groups, particularly the Komala (Kordestan Marxist-Leninist Committee), "whose watchwords advocating the overthrow of the Tehran government have seriously harmed our cause." The KDP representative believes in particular that the Komala's call, last April, for the inhabitants of Sanandaj to turn their city into a "new Stalingrad" has "cost the local population very dear."

Mr (Hedi) said categorically: "Our aim is not to overthrow the Tehran regime. We support the Islamic Republic but want to give it a really progressive and democratic content. We think that that will only be possible within the framework of the existing republican regime, but, at the same time, we have reached the conclsuion that we will not obtain anything from the present leaders unless we wage an armed struggle to force them to grant our demands: Kurdish national rights within the framework of Iran and democracy for all the country's national minorities." He added: "Our support for the Khomeyni regime is not unconditional. We have never approved of attacks on public freedom or of Islamic justice's extortions any more than we have ever supported the U.S. hostage operation which, in our view, constitutes a serious political mistake which has isolated Iran on the international scene. On the other hand we support all the measures aimed at eliminating the old regime's legacy and increasing Iran's economic and political independence."

Referring to the situation within the KDP, Mr (Hedi) deplored the split in the party following the resignation of Mr Qani Bolurian and six of his friends from the Central Committee at the end of May. On this subject he specified that Mr Bolurian, "an extremely valuable Kurdish leader who spent more than 25 years in SAVAK prisons," had refused to bow to the decisions of the party's fourth congress in February ordering all Central Committee members to withdraw into the mountains to lead the guerrilla war. Mr Bolurian justified his refusal by stating that the decision to wage an armed struggle against the Tehran authorities "played into imperialism's hands," that "all changes of a negotiated solution had not been exhausted" and that "the KDP had established ties with the Baghdad government."

Mr (Hedi) denied the last assertion and the reports from various sources maintaining that the KDP is receiving arms from the Iraqis. "Mr Bolurian," he said, "has been misled by his Tudeh friends who want to turn the KDP into a branch of the Communist Party in Kordestan. We are not opposed to cooperation with the communists but insist that it must take place only on an equal footing and in conditions which would preserve our organization's independence."

WESTERN 'TRIBESMEN' MOBILIZED TO DEFEND BORDER

LD160925 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 9 Sep 80 p 4

[Unattributed report: "25,000 Tribesmen Undergoing Military Training at Mahidasht To Guard the Islamic Republic of Iran's Borders"]

[Excerpts] A training headquarters for mobilizing the tribes in the west of the country has been opened in the presence of tribal leaders and a large gathering of the brave warriors of the Kalhur, Jalalvand, Osmanvand, Ardelan, Sarvenarv, Kakavand, Firuzabad, Hersin, Kandhar, Sanjabi, Kargah, Namseh, (Lor Zanganeh) and Qaleseh tribes.

According to the report received, over 25,000 tribesmen from the aforementioned areas are prepared to guard the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran with their arms and ammunition.

Islamic Consultative Assembly Deputies Safar, representing Eslamabad, and Mahmudi from Qasr-e Shirin, as well as presidential adviser Pir Hoseyni, explained the role, object and nature of the mobilization of the underpriviledged, in particular the mobilization of the western tribes. Tribal mobilization forces then paraded before a picture of Imam Khomeyni and put on a display of their fighting readiness.

In conclusion, resolutions declaring the solidarity of the tribesmen participating in the ceremonies were read out, especially those who had joined the mobilization of the underpriviledged, and those present indicated their approval.

PURGING OPERATION CONDUCTED IN 21 VILLAGES

LD171116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] According to our correspondent's report from Urumiyeh, purging operations in 21 villages which come under Naqadeh administrative authority have ended and in the course of the operations 497 weapon items, including Brno rifles, G-3 automatics and sidearms, were collected. The purging operations in these village were carried out by purging teams from Naqaeden, the city's Islamic Revolution committee and the gendarmerie company. The inhabitants of the villages purged put up no resistance and the purge was carried out without any clash. After the conclusion of the purging operations in these villages, the purging teams of Naqadeh called upon other villages coming under Naqadeh administrative authority to hand over their arms and equipment to these teams at once and be assured that the region's security will be maintained.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAM: REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRAQ

JN170824 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 17 Sep 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Quoting travellers who have arrived in Kuwait from Iraq, the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI correspondent in Kuwait reports that last Friday evening demonstrations were held in An-Najaf, Karbala' and Ath-Thawrah. The report says that a great number of men and women participated in these demonstrations.

The report adds that the An-Najaf demonstrations began in [word indistinct] 'Ali, may God's blessings and pace be upon him, and proceeded to nearby streets while the demonstrators changed "God is great, there is no other God but God." The demonstrators clashed with security forces and the Ba'thist regime's mercenaries at the start of [word indistinct] street. Iraqi women played an important role in these demonstrations, which were in denunciation of the attacks and clashes initiated by the agent Ba'thist regime against the Islamic Revolution.

In Karbala', the city of martyr Al-Husayn, may God's blessings and peace be upon him, similar demonstrations were held. After evening prayers, the city's Muslim citizens held demonstrations beginning in Al-Husayn Street. They clashed with the Ba'thist security forces. Several demonstrators were wounded and one Ba'thist mercenary was wounded in the eye. As a result of the clashes, the Ba'thist forces, which are hostile to the people, entered the city, arrested scores of Muslim citizens and took them to prisons, where they were beaten.

The report says that the inhabitants of the city of Ath-Thawrah, near Baghdad, gathered around the city's mosque and fiercely protested against the Ba'thist party's crimes, denouncing its hostility to the Islamic Revolution.

The mosque was closed down because its Muslim youths transformed it into a base that is hostile to the atheist Ba'th Party. The imam of the mosque was arrested by the Ba'th Party's executioners, and died at the hands of these killers.

The inhabitants gathered around the mosque chanting "God is great," thus expressing their indignation at the corrupt Ba'thi Party's crimes. Terrorist Ba'thist forces were sent to the site and tried to disperse the demonstrators, who then chanted "O brother Iranian, those who are fighting you are not Iraqis, they are Egyptian mercenaries." The Ba'thist forces were furious and began striking the public with clubs. Several salvos were also heard. No other details about these events have been made available.

AHVAZ RADIO REPORTS GAS PIPELINE SABOTAGED NEAR ABADAN

GF161339 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] According to our collegues in Abadan, at around 0243 today a 16-inch gas pipeline carrying natural gas from Agha Jari to Abadan exploded 40 km from Abadan. An extensive fire broke out. The head of Abadan oil installations said: Following the discovery of the incident, a group of experts went to the area and the fire was brought under control at 1030 today. He added: Another group has gone to the area to assess the damage and effect repairs. The explosion was caused by explosives attached to the pipeline.

NIOC RADIO: SADDAM HUSAYN ASKS BEGIN FOR ISRAELI PILOTS

GF161846 Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Sep 80

[From "Today's Iraq Is an Erupting Volcano" program]

[Text] [Words indistinct] demonstrated by mutiny and evading service in the Iraqi Army, as well as deliberate desertion. The matter was made worse for the fascist Ba'thist government by the mutiny that emerged in the ranks of the Iraqi Army, especially after the Ba'thist government escalated its military operations on the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Muslim soldier in Iraq does not want to turn his weapon against his brother, the Muslim soldier in Iran. However, the racist Iraqi regime compels the Muslim Iraqi Army to fight the heroic Iranian Army.

A Muslim Iraqi soldier arrived in Qasr-e Shirin a few days ago and requested political asylum from the Islamic Government of Iran. The Muslim Iranian people in Qasr-e Shirin welcomed this Muslim soldier. Yesterday three soldiers fled to Iran with all their weapons and asked for political asylum.

Letters arriving via Beirut from free pilots in Ash-Shu'aybah base say that most Iraqi Air Force personnel, particularly those in the southern airbase, do not wish to remain in the great jail. They say the fascist party of Iraq does not allow any pilot to take off from the airbase unless he is accompanied by a party member who is responsible for the plane and the pilot.

This is what is happening in the heroic Iraqi Army. Let Saddam know that the Iraqi people and army are united and have closed their ranks against his doomed throne. The Al-Habbaniyah airbases near Ar-Ramadi is besieged by the secret security police. No one is allowed to come near it. Modern aircraft and equipment have been transferred to Israeli airbases to protect them from Muslim pilots, sons of the Muslim tribes of Iraq.

In a secret report by the puppet and criminal party addressed from the Ba'th command in Baghdad to the Israeli prime minister, General Saddam asks his brother and colleague Menachem Begin to send him Jewish, Arabic-speaking Israeli pilots originally from Arab countries. Thus Israel sent a number of its pilots to Iraq to attack Iran's borders and villages.

The fascist Iraqi Government has placed most military personnel under house arrest in their camps. The honorable Iraqi Army that has been forced to live this Ba'thist nightmare for a short time [words indistinct] and is carrying out tangible actions.

The Ba'thist Iraqi Government is anxious to hide the correct figures and black out developments, especially among the ranks of the army. Secret Ba'thist reports issued by the Ba'th Party's regional command say that the Iraqi Army has been "poisoned" by the ideas of the Islamic Revolution--in the words of the great criminal Michel 'Aflaq. Revolutionary consciousness has spread to many Iraqi Army personnel of various ranks.

The Muslim Iraqi Army is looking forward to the eternal sun of Islam. Revolution until victory.

MAJLIS OFFICE WARNS AGAINST 'ACTS OF PROVOCATION'

LD141930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the following statement was issued today by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

It is one of the blessings of this movement and one of the blessings of Islam that all the country's institutions are Islamic and of the people; and a Majlis of the people is like this, too, Imam Khomeyni has said. While the Islamic Consultative Assembly, this genuine institution of the Islamic Republic, beset by a mountain of political, social and economic problems, is responsible for and is decisively taking steps to achieve the lofty ideological aspirations, and at a time when the Majlis, with its heavy backlog, is devoting long hours to nonstop work, debate the thorough investigation to solve the difficulties faced by this injustice-striken and Western-striken society, it is being occasionally observed that certain ill-intentioned (?elements) because it has been proved that they are lying in wait and are hostile to the country and nation and our dear Islam, or perhaps certain uninformed and uninitiated individuals, are raising certain deviationists issues and matters which are not always the responsibility of the Majlis and proceeding to acts of provocation, to blocking the roads and such like in the vicinity of the Islamic Consultative Assembly building--something which itself represents part of the long process of conspiracy and the creation of a false atmosphere by Majlis' unequivocal anticolonialist and anti-exploitation attitude.

We warn that an institution which, as the imam has stated, is the quintessence of the nation's piety, will never remain indifferent to suspicious and discordant conflicts by these little groups and such individuals.

Should these acts be repeated, the agents will be made known to the Muslim and valiant Iranian people.

NOTIFICATION ON CONFISCATION, DEATH SENTENCES CLARIFIED

LD131640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Sep 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Rabbani Amlashi, a member of the Supreme Judicial Council and president of the special civil courts, following a notification issued by the Supreme Judicial Council on verdicts issued by the Islamic Revolution Courts on confiscation of property and death sentences, said: The Supreme Judicial Council's objective in issuing the notification is that we do not want to make the slightest mistakes in these two cases, where public property and people's lives are at stake.

The president of the special civil courts added: The Supreme Judicial Council has decided that sentences issued by Islamic Revolution Courts throughout the country pertaining to execution and confiscation of property should be raised again in an ordinary court before they are finally confirmed by the Supreme Judicial Council; and that only after these verdicts are upheld, would they be administered.

DEZFUL GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES EXPERIMENTAL BLACKOUTS

GF161425 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] The governor's office in Dezful has issued this announcement through the public relations department of the governor general's office:

We hereby inform the Muslim and revolutionary citizens of Dezful, Shush and Andimeshk of experimental blackouts to further prepare our 20-million-strong army. This program will be on Tuesday, 16 September, following evening prayers and will last a limited time in Dezful and districts. We request the respected citizens to follow these rules diligently:

1. As soon as the blackout starts, all lights such as candles, matches and so on should be extinguished.

2. Drivers are required to turn out all lights and park their cars.

3. Any unnecessary trips should be avoided.

In the hope of victory for the Islamic Revolution and the establishment of a just Islamic regime in the world.

EXECUTION OF NINE COUP CONSPIRATORS REPORTED

LD151742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Sep 80

[Text] Nine influential agents of the evil coup d'etat and the 9 July conspiracy were executed by firing squad this evening by order of the revolutionary court of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The names of those executed are as follows:

Morteza Sohanaki, Mohammad Reza Zad-Naderi, Naser Morabbati, Manuchehr Sadeghi, Khalil 'Atri, Naser Sajedi, 'Ali Shafiq, Sarbaz Darya'i, and Daryanavard.

ARMY COURT OFFICIAL NULLIFIES EARLIER ORDERS

LD141040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 14 Sep 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Reyshahri, president of the Islamic Revolution Courts of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has issued a statement announcing that all the orders issued by this court regarding the arrest and detention of those accused by this court, regardless of date, are null and void. The statement also said that all identification documents issued by this court are pronounced null and void as from this date, and those possessing them should take steps to replace them within 1 week.

FINANCE MINISTER, STEEL INDUSTRY OFFICIAL LEAVE FOR FRG

LD161218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Sep 80

[Text] Dr Karimi, minister of economic affairs and finance, accompanied by Mr Ahmadzadeh, minister of state and superviser of the steel industries, left this morning for the FRG to take part in the Krupp annual general meeting. The meeting will last 3 days.

FARS INDUSTRIALISTS ORDERED TO REOPEN FACTORIES

GF141636 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 14 Sep 80

[Text] The Fars development and production headquarters has ordered owners of industrial and agricultural units which have been closed or left unfinished for any reason to reopen them by 14 November. The announcement on this subject reads: If the order is not complied with, the development headquarters of Fars will use school graduates and the unemployed according to [words indistinct] cooperative laws to reopen the establishments. Owners of these units can contact the headquarters, located at 20 Meters Street, on the corner of Hedayat, from 16 September to discuss details.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON COPPER INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

LD132116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1709 GMT 13 Sep 80

[Text] According to a PARS report, the managing director of the National Iranian Copper Industry [NICI] today said that the drilling operation of the copper mine of [word indistinct] will begin within the next few days with the cooperation of Polish experts.

He added that a new organization has been formed within the national copper industry to ascertain the responsibility of the Iranian personnel and foreign experts who will work as advisers to Iranian officials. Concerning efforts to remove the difficulties existing in the copper industry, the managing director of NICI said: Following the revolution the circuits were controlled and the plants began working last November and we started operating and testing part of the density machinery in order to find out our shortcomings and plan on the basis of our findings. [words indistinct]

Commenting on the production level of Sarcheshmeh mines in Kerman the managing director of NICI said: The maximum production of the copper mines is 145,000 tons annually and the deposit of Sarcheshmeh mine has been estimated at about 700 million tons.

The managing director of NICI then referred to the forthcoming drilling of [word indistinct] mine and said about 500 to 1,000 persons will be engaged in this operation within the next 2 months.

CARGO HANDLING PROBLEMS AT ABADAN REPORTED

LD170530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] According to a PARS report, about 200,000 tons of commercial commodities are presently piled up at the Imam Khomeyni Port.

The general manager of the port and the shipping organization of Imam Khomeyni in Abadan, in announcing this matter, added: The turn order of the ships at this port is not taken into consideration at all, and at present 34 ships are being unloaded at the piers of the Imam Khomeyni Port's office and shipping organization.

Regarding the goods abandoned in the port he said: Commodities which have been left in the port for 4 months, and whose owners have not come for their release, according to a bill approved by the government, will be considered as "abandoned," and after the expiry of the deadline they will be submitted to the oppressed foundation.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

1 Sep Commentary

TA020810 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 1 September carried a commentary entitled: "The Support of Our Northern Neighbor, the Soviet Union, for the Iranian Revolution." It said: As the world's press and news agencies have reported, our northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, has once more declared its support for the glorious revolution of the Iranian nation. The world's press and news agencies report that Leonid Brezhnev, during his speech at Alma-Ata, condemned U.S. policy toward the Islamic Republic of Iran and stated that Washington's measures against Iran were illegal and unacceptable. He added that the Soviet Union consistently supports the principle that it is only the Iranian nation that can and should determine its future path.

These remarks of Leonid Brezhnev are an answer both to Washington and to its mercenaries and hirelings in Iran, who are raising a clamor in order to display our northern neighbor as posing the main threat to the Iranian nation and to other Muslim nations. The raising of this clamor against the Soviet Union is not only for the purpose of pushing people like Qotbzadeh onto the stage as presidential candidates. The important thing is that the United States decided to establish its network of military bases in the Indian Ocean and in the countries of the Middle and Near East and Africa. The United States wants to impose its domination over these countries in order to plunder their natural resources unchallenged and at the same time use their territory for its strategic aims against the socialist world and for crushing progressive forces and liberation and anti-imperialist movements.

We are all aware that the glorious revolution of our nation, which resulted in the overthrow of the puppet imperial regime, dealt a strong blow to the United States' military, strategic, political and economic positions not only in Iran but in the whole region. It is especially for this reason that U.S. imperialism strove desperately to save the satanic regime. When it failed in this, it contrived to stifle the Iranian revolution in order, perhaps, to turn back the wheel of history.

At the same time we are all aware that the Soviet Union from the outset highly regarded the anti-imperialist aims of the Iranian revolution. Following the overthrow of the shah's regime our northern neighbor immediately recognized the new revolutionary order of our homeland and declared its readiness for the development of mutual relations. Our revolutionary nation recognizes its friends quite well. "The deals of Western politicians and their agents, like the Qotbzadehs, cannot cast a shadow over the policy of the Soviet Union toward our country in the hard conditions of the continuity of the struggle of our nation against U.S. imperialism and for freedom and independence."

2 Sep Commentary

TA031440 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 2 September carried two commentaries:

The first commentary was entitled: "Let Us Take Steps To Consolidate Unity." It said that in a speech at the seminar for reviewing the problems and difficulties of the police department of the Islamic Republic of Iran, President Bani-Sadr told the participants that no one has the right to give an unlawful order and that the police should carry out the law. All are aware that about 1 month ago a group of hooligans attacked and occupied the offices of progressive, national and popular parties and organizations in Tehran and other towns. Until now, no one has come forward to ask: Who are these elements, to which organization do they belong and who gave them permission to attack and assault the offices and members of progressive and national parties and organizations?

A few days after the attack on the offices of the progressive and revolutionary parties, the revolution's prosecutor general issued a statement in which he said that the act of these assailants is countrary to the existing regulations, to the Constitution and to the interests of the country. In the present conditions, when U.S. imperialism and the counterrevolution are hatching various plots against the revolution of the Iranian nation and its gains, a certain group, whether Islamic or non-Islamic, and contrary to all the country's rules and regulations is attacking the offices of the revolutionary and committed parties and organizations and is not even paying attention to the statement of the prosecutor general.

The surprising thing is that some of the country's officials are looking at these law violations and fascist acts with a sense of satisfaction. Why do the country's law enforcement bodies not carry out the order of the prosecutor general to put an end to such unlawful acts? The interests of the revolution and of the Iranian nation dictate that the authorities take steps to consolidate the unity of the revolutionary forces and not allow our Islamic Republic to become a plaything in the hands of a group of fakers, sowers of discord and Islamic pretenders.

The second commentary was entitled: "Procrastianation in Implementing the Land Reform Law Is to the Benefit of the Counterrevolution." It said: Twenty months have passed since the victorious revolution of our nation. However, many of our toiling peasants are still waiting to receive land and water. Following the fall of the provisional government, Professor Reza Esfahani, the under secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, prepared the law for the distribution of land among landless peasants. However, there is still no report of its implementation in many of the country's villages, and one must acknowledge that this is the greatest victory and success of the counterrevolution and the enemies of order of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The feudalists and big landlords have always been and continue to be the reliable stronghold of the counterrevolution and remnants of the former regime, and have participated in all the plots carried out against our revolution. We have repeatedly said and repeat again that one of the most important ways of consolidating the gains of the revolution and of neutralizing the plots of imperialism and its fifth column in Iran is the revolutionary implementation of the land reform law among landless farmers. Those who, knowingly or unknowingly, prevent the implementation of land reform commit the greatest treason against the revolution and its gains. Millions of Iran's villagers expect the new government to speedily implement the land reform law throughout the entire country.

3 Sep Commentary

TA032141 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 3 September carried a commentary entitled: "Let Us disarm the Counterrevolution and Its imperialist Supporters." It said: One of the dangerous methods which U.S. imperialism and the counterrevolution use to carry out their anti-Iranian plans is the creation of a climate of discontent, division and discord and an environment which lacks personal and social security within the country. The counterrevolution and the mercenaries of U.S. imperialism and its allies implement these methods through various means. In one place they induce a group of people who lack any faith and belief to attack the offices of the parties and organizations loyal to the revolution. In another place they create a war between the Sunnis and the Shi'ites and between the Turks and the Fars. On the other hand they exert all their efforts to create a climate of discontent and instability in the country through their agents, such as the feudalists, landlords and dependent capitalists.

Our people are aware of the problems facing the country and do not expect a miracle from the authorities in alleviating the present difficult conditions in a very short time, and have proved that they can endure difficulties. However, the problem is that the counter-revolution and the masked and unmasked elements of imperialism are attempting the exploit these shortcomings and the people's financial difficulties for their own political aims.

The aim of the counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism and its allies it to achieve a general goal, which is the creation of a climate of discontent and preparing the groundwork for implementing aggressive plans to overthrow the regime of our Islamic Republic and the return to the previous dark era.

By taking certain measures the authorities should begin a fight against profiteering and inflation, and should end the illegal acts of certain groups who operate under Maoist and religious slogans. Consistent measures in these areas will disarm the counter-revolution and its Western allies in their attempts to create a climate of discontent.

4 Sep Commentary

TA050833 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 4 September carried a commentary entitled: "Placing the Progressive Forces Under Blows Is to the Benefit of the Counterrevolution." It said: From the very beginning of the Iranian revolution and the victory of the Iranian nation's struggle against the world-devouring United States and its stooge regime, counterrevolution has started a propaganda campaign of accusations at the orders of its masters against the true leftist forces of the revolution. This was not surprising for the Iranian nation, because U.S. imperialism and its Iranian lackeys--the big landowners, servile capitalists and mercenaries--are well aware of the fact that the true progressive leftist forces of the revolution are irreconciliable with neocolonialism, imperialism and exploitation.

The history of the Iranian nation's struggle during the past 50 years is full of irrefutable documents and evidence confirming that people affiliated with the progressive national forces have struggled against imperialism and colonialism, despite all the crimes of the Pahlavi dynasty. It is these forces that revealed the true nature of British colonialisms' and U.S. imperialism's plots and mobilized the people for a decisive struggle against these internal and foreign foes. When the true leftist parties of the revolution began to advise the nation that the way to save the Iranian nation is by overthrowing the Pahlavi dynasty and establishing a people's republican regime, many of the opportunists such as the Qotbzadehs and Entezams, who today pretend to be the heroes and leaders of the revolutionary movements of the Iranian nation, had either not entered the political arena at that time or supported a constitutional monarchy.

World-devouring U.S. imperialism and counterrevolution are well aware that the leftist revolutionary forces will defend the revolution and its gains till their last breath, and that is why the Western propaganda machinery is trying to inflict blows on them. Counterrevolution and imperialism have succeeded in inflicting some blows on these forces by using the prejudice and superficiality of some leaders; but any child knows that by attacking these true forces, the ground for counterrevolutionary activities will be prepared. This is an irrefutable truth and a lesson from the recent history of our homeland.

5 Sep Commentary

TA071242 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 5 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "The Policy of Delivering Blows at the True Revolutionary Leftist Forces Is Detrimental to the Revolution."

It said: From past bitter experiences, the people of our country know that whenever propaganda against the true leftist forces of the revolution reaches its peak, without any doubt a plot against the independence and sovereignty of Iran is being hatched. Today the situation in Iran is such that despite the imam's recommendations and the (?interest) of the revolution, some elements seek to attack these true forces of the revolution.

Even the mass media do not desist from repeating the slanders of the Western press, whose animosity toward the leftist forces of the revolution is not in doubt. For example, on the threshold of the 19 August coup--while the U.S. and British press were speaking of the alleged danger of a people's government coming to power in Iran and the "danger" of the Soviet Union having access to the warm waters of the Persian Gulf, and while the propaganda machinery of the government repeated these slanders--the United States and Britain were hatching a plot against Iran. The main goal of the Americans and British was to mislead public opinion from the real danger: a coup and imperialist plots.

Today some bewitched followers of the so-called "neither Eastern nor Western school" in order to prove their anti-Americanism must by all means attack the Soviet Union, or in order to confirm their anticommunism, must attack the true forces of the revolution and anyone who has an opinion opposed to the opinion of the government. Some of these elements have used attacks against leftist, not pseudoleftist, forces as a means for rapprochment with the West. The government's propaganda machinery is, for endless hours, at the disposal of anyone who wishes to attack the true revolutionary forces by resorting to slander. However, it is not at the disposal of those who by day and by night are exposed to the blows of unjust propaganda attacks of the authorities. The policy of delivering blows to the revolutionary forces true to the imam's anti-imperialist path is a policy doomed to failure.

The second commentary was entitled "Sadeq Qotbzadeh Must Answer in the Presence of the Nation." It said: Recently, newspapers from different countries, among them French newspapers, have published articles on the former Iranian foreign minister, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, in which Qotbzadeh's past is revealed as are his antirevolutionary activities during the period he occupied the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One of the revealing documents published in France contained the statements of Amir Ala'i, former Iranian ambassador to France, who during an interview with French journalists said Qotbzadeh secretly cooperated with high officials of the White House and with economic and business circles in the United States. The ambassador added that the Iranian Embassy in Paris has received a check for $1 million from a U.S. bank for Mr Qotbzadeh. This check has been paid to Qotbzadeh for his efforts to release the U.S. hostages. When the ambassador sent the check to Iran so that the responsible officials could investigate the matter, not only did they not pay any heed to it but at the order of Qotbzadeh, the ambassador was discharged from his post. The ambassador also added that Qotbzadeh during his recent visits to Paris had secret meetings with Hamilton Jordan and powerful U.S. capitalists.

In reality this document is enough to prosecute Qotbzadeh. This divulgence by the Iranian ambassador to France is a confirmation of what the Iranian nation knows about Sadeq Qotbzadeh.

The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA in an article had said that Qotbzadeh during his student days at Georgetown University collaborated with the CIA and SAVAK and reported to these organizations on the political activities of Iranian students. The Kuwaiti paper added that when Qotbzadeh occupied the post of foreign minister he maintained his contacts with U.S. officials and in his meetings with them discussed plans for plotting against the Iranian revolution. According to French newspapers, the Americans considered Mr Qotbzadeh (?one of themselves), and during the period he was foreign minister they were to some extent tranquil.

It was not accidental that the Muslim Student Followers of the Imam in their 137th statement said that when the imam declared the United States enemy No 1 it was observed that the foreign minister took a position as if he had no hostility toward the United States. Our nation demands that the authorities investigate Sadeq Qotbzadeh and make clear what sort of a person he is.

6 Sep Commentary

GF062015 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 6 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "It Is Not Dignified for the Iranian Revolution To Resort to Force or Examine Beliefs." It said: Mr Mohammad Mohamadi, Majlis deputy for Gorgan, recently criticized the new system for hiring teachers. During an interview with an Islamic Revolution reporter following his speech, he said: According to reports in my possession, the questions asked teachers during interviews have been purely political and are intended to identify their political beliefs. There is no reason why we should be afraid of our opposition. In fact, it is better that they should not go underground.

The Majlis deputy is well informed. Unfortunately, the examination beliefs exists in the schools. Please note these questions that teachers were asked in a Tehran district: "Name some political groups and give your opinion of them", "What is your opinion of Beheshti?" "Which country is our main enemy, the United States or Soviet Union?"

These questions have nothing to do with employment and are, in fact, a way of examining opinions. This is forbidden by the Constitution, which bans actions against anyone based on their beliefs. Therefore, it is obvious that if an applicant does not give responses that suit the questioner he will not get the job.

Our nation condemns these actions that violate the Constitution. We want the examination of beliefs to end, not only in the education department but in all branches of the government. Such actions will only result in cynicisim among a large group. This would be to the counter-revolutionaries' advantage.

The second commentary was entitled: "Washington Continues Its Plots." It said: It seems that the United States intends to continue its military expansion in the strategically important Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf. The words of [name indistinct], deputy U.S. secretary of state, prove this. In a speech to Congress he said the U.S. agreements with Somalia, Kenya and Oman are aimed at enforcing the military presence of the United States in Southwest Asia. The United States has the use of air and sea facilities in Somalia, including the use of one of the airbases on the Red Sea coast. This base will be used by the U.S. Navy and will house the quick reaction force.

The United States has allocated hundreds of millions of dollars to develop these bases in the gulf. According to the Washington POST, the U.S. Army has access to the Red Sea through a base in Egypt. It will be completely refurbished along with the base in Oman. This illness that the Pentagon has recently contracted is a reflection of the Carter doctrine, which is a copy of Eisenhower's. Twenty-three years ago, U.S. military force was used against communist threats in the area. It was justified at the time as a way of dealing with a threat to the security of the United States. Carter is now using the same fairy tales to justify his doctrine and use military force against the Arab freedom movements and the Iranian revolution.

In response to a reporter's provocative question on the reality of the Soviet threat, the UAE's ruler said: We have not seen any documents indicating the Soviets' intentions in the area.

It is clear that there is a danger of aggression against our country. Yet, in our country some groups have started shouting about Soviet threats, and the United States is using this to implement anti-Iranian schemes. It seems at times that some of these gentlemen would not hesitate to request the help of the U.S. quick reaction force to stop the so-called Soviet threat. Knowingly or not, they will be helping the counterrevolutionaries by such actions.

8 Sep Commentary

TA090822 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 8 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "Long Live the Memory of the Martyrs of 8 September." It said: Eight September is a turning point in the history of the struggle of the Iranian nation against the order of the former shah's dictatorial regime and its American masters. This day is dear to our nation, and it is for this reason that throughout the entire country the people have paid their respects to the martyrs of 8 September by holding demonstrations and marches.

During those difficult days the imam was still in exile. However, through his fiery messages and wise guidelines the imam led the battle and crusade of the Iranian nation toward overthrowing the former shah's corrupt and puppet regime, and the elimination of the disgraceful domination of imperialism led by U.S. imperialism. In the glorious ceremonies which were held today in Tehran and other cities, and in which hundreds of thousands of people participated, the Iranian nation vowed once more to safeguard freedom and independence and the order of the Islamic Republic until the last drop of blood.

The Iranian nation has rightly recognized that U.S. imperialism has still not refrained from hatching plots, and has mobilized and organized all its forces to overthrow the order of the Islamic Republic and to eliminate freedom and the gains of the Iranian revolution. In such circumstances diverting public opinion from this danger is to the benefit of the counterrevolution. We have repeatedly said and state again today that in the face of world-devouring U.S. imperialism and its pseudo-Iranian mercenaries, all the true forces of the revolution faithful to the imam's anti-imperialist and popular line should act in a united manner.

The second commentary was entitled: "British Colonialism--the Ally of World-Devouring U.S. Imperialism." It said: For more than one month now 40 struggling Iranian students have been under arrest in London. The British police have arrested these Iranian students without any legal ground, and thus are once more demonstrating the ugly visage of that so-called democracy of the free Western world to the people of the world. What crimes had the Iranian students committed that the Thatcher government was forced to put them in chains? The only crime and guilt of our students was that they condemned the plots and crimes of U.S. imperialism, this accomplice of feeble British colonialism, and expressed their solidarity with the Iranian nation's revolution. The criminal act of British colonialism in arresting the struggling Iranian students and the obstinacy of British officials in refusing to release them has again demonstrated the fact to our liberated people that British imperialism, like U.S. imperialism, was and continues to be the real enemy of our nation and country.

Long before the arrival of the U.S. imperialists in Iran, our homeland's people felt the domination, plunder and lootings of the British colonialists over their whole being. The British have had a hand in all the misfortunes and disasters of our nation, and today no anti-Iranian plot, provocation or conspiracy can be born in which the British do not have a hand. The leaders of the British Government are today directly or indirectly involved in all the anti-Iranian acts, plots and aggressions of U.S. imperialism. Therefore, one cannot and must not be negligent in the struggle against British colonialism as, likewise, one cannot be negligent in the struggle against U.S. imperialism. The blow which has been struck at U.S. imperialism as a result of the victory of the Iranian nation's revolution is at the same time a blow which has been struck at British colonialism. Thus, the anti-Iranian measures of the colonialist British Government are completely comprehensible, and it is incumbent upon us to close further our ranks in the face of the plots of U.S. imperialism and British colonialism--these sworn enemies of the Iranian nation and country--and not be negligent even for one moment in the continuation and intensification of this struggle.

It is only through the intensification of the anti-imperialist struggles and through unity of word and action that we can succeed in foiling the joint Satanic plans of U.S. and British imperialism and to liberate the struggling Iranian children from the dungeons of the British colonialists.

9 Sep Commentary

TA091948 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 9 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "Followers of Counterrevolution in Preparation of Another Plot." It said: From Tuesday 2 September till Friday 5 September a meeting was held in a villa in the suburbs of Paris participated in by (?leaders) of the CIA and fugitive antirevolutionary forces, such as Ardechir Zahedi, representing the former shah's family, Nahavandi, director or Tehran University, General Oveysi and the leader of the military organization of the fugitives of the army and finally Shahpur Bakhtiar, the traitor. The aim of this gathering was to discuss the overthrow of the Islamic Republic, the installation of a regime dependent on the United States and the restoration of the shah's son as the king of Iran. Only one thing unites these different anitrevolutionary wings--the overthrow of the regime. It is said that Golam 'Ali Oveysi, Ashraf, Ardechir Zahedi and Nahavandi are divided in their anti-Iranian plots, but believe the actual regime must be overthrown as soon as possible. But Farah, the former shah's widow and Shahpur Bakhtiar expect that the actual regime should be disintegrated from within and put the former shah's son on the throne in an alleged democratic way. Apparently this gathering resembles more a comedy play than a serious measure.

Behind this gathering a big plot against the Iranian nation is being hatched. We should not disregard the fact that the power of U.S. imperialism, British colonialism and their hirelings such as Begin and As-Sadat support these fugitives. According to informed sources, U.S. officials now overtly support the restoration of the monarchy in Iran. The speical adviser to Reagan in his meeting with the leaders of the Iranian fugitives in Europe and the fugitive officers promised them the Reagan, if elected president, would support their activities. Carter himself is in contact with these fugitives and has even allowed Farah to freely enter the United States with a (?Monacan) passport.

Counterrevolution is hatching a plot against the Islamic Republic abroad and this is a serious danger. We must be ready and vigilant vis-a-vis these dangers. The true revolutionary forces of the country must put aside their discord and act in unison against imperialist plots.

The second commentary was entitled: "The Benefits of Oil Monopolies Are Increasing." It said: The OPEC oil-producing countries issued resolutions during the Algeria conference for limiting the actions of oil monopolies. The oil cartel makes great efforts to prevent the implementation of the Algeria conference resolutions and to reduce the energy crisis in the West, especially in the United States. Western propaganda machinery complains that the price of OPEC oil has doubled in the past 2 years and this is allegedly to the detriment of all and particularly to the detriment of the developing countries, even to the OPEC countries themselves.

In reality the case is very different--the capitalist developed countries are continuing to plunder the oil riches of the free countries, but the industrial products of the capitalist countries are sold at very high prices to OPEC member-states while the price of raw materials exported by developing countries has not been raised. It is evident that developing countries who buy OPEC oil are faced with financial problems, but the cause of these problems is not so much related to the OPEC oil price hikes as it is the plundering of the raw materials of these countries by imperialist countries. Regarding the oil monopolies, it must be said that not only they have not sustained any losses, but on the contrary much has been added to their plundering benefits.

Imperialist countries led by the United States do not stop their political, military and economic pressure on the OPEC member-states. The United States is trying to confront these countries with discord. The Pentagon's military bases in our region are another factor for carrying out this policy of threats and pressures. But the OPEC members-states are certain to struggle for the safeguarding of their oil wealth against the plundering policies of imperialist countries.

10 Sep Commentary

TA101926 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 10 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "In Memory of a Great and True Crusader." It said: One year has passed since the death of the great crusader, Ayatollah Taleqani. During his entire life the late Ayatollah Taleqani fought on the path of struggle and against oppression and despotism. In his message on this occasion Imam Khomeyni rightly states that Ayatollah Taleqani suffered hardships, torture and imprisonment in service to Islam and Islamic countries. He never flinched from this honorable service for one moment and continued his efforts toward the goals of the revolution.

Ayatollah Taleqani was one of the most open-minded leaders of the Iranian revolution and a revolutionary in the true sense of the word. In the opinion of Ayatollah Taleqani all the uprisings of the deprived strata and oppressed people anywhere in the world were Islamic. His ideal society was a society free of exploitation and colonialism and in which despotism has no place, a society in which religion will not be exploited as a means for oppression and injustice. Ayatollah Taleqani dispised blind fanaticism and monopolism and used to say that the Koran is for all humanity. He believed in the necessity of respect for freedom and for the political and social beliefs of others. Ayatollah Taleqani fervently believed in the necessity of unity of all the true forces of the revolution regardless of their opinions and their philosophical and religious beliefs, and for this reason he struggled against sowers of discord, whether extreme leftists or extreme rightists. The best way of honoring the memory of that great crusader is preserving the unity and alliance of the true forces of the revolution, refraining from monopolism and joint battle against the joint enemy, namely remnants of the former regime and U.S. imperialism.

The second commentary was entitled: "Desist From Investigating Beliefs." It said: Not much time is left until the beginning of the new scholastic year. However, despite the demand of Imam Khomeyni for eliminating illiteracy in the country, this year many children will not be able to study for lack of schools, classrooms and teachers. One of the greatest shortcomings of our homeland's educational organizations is a shortage and lack of an educational cadre. Unfortunately the application of undesirable and un-Islamic methods, contrary to the Constitution, have increased the problems and inadequacies in the education and training organization. Our country's existing schools and institutions are in need of teachers and instructors. Thousands of our homeland's revolutionary youth have applied to join the country's educational organizations, but unfortunately due to the establishment of a system of investigating personal beliefs there young people were prevented from joining the education and training organization. Mr Bani-Sadr, our country's president, has stressed that the act of investigating beliefs is illegal. The method of investigating beliefs is contrary to the desire of the imam pertaining to respect to the beliefs and opinion of the people.

By this work method and by investigating beliefs, the crisis in the educational and training organization will deepen. This work method must be discarded before it is too late. The activity of the educational organization and its officials should be based on freedom of thought and beliefs and on faith toward the Iranian nation's revolution.

11 Sep Commentary

TA111936 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 11 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "The Welfare Problem Is the Acute Problem of our Society." It said: Finally, after a prolonged struggle--which is still continuing and which under the present circumstances is unjustifiable--the government of Mr Raja'i gained a vote of confidence from Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly. Following the statement of the prime minister in the Majlis, it is obvious that the government has still not formulated a precise and detailed program. However, among the main problems which confront the government are those pertaining to the maintenance of the acute needs and welfare of the people. Paying attention to this issue is vital, because it is being said in certain circles these days that allegedly in today's Iran welfare problems are not an issue, and that maintenance of welfare will lead to a consumer society. It must be said that such an attitude toward this acute and vital problem of our society neither conforms with reason and facts nor is based on the Iranian revolution's spirit. Among the aims which the people fought for in the revolution are having a better and more honorable life, and enjoying the spiritual and material blessings of society. The toiling people are in need of water, bread, schools, books, teachers, hospitals, housing and living essentials, and the people expect to have these things, especially after a popular revolution. The Iranian revolution and its people should not be exceptions.

Our nation has inherited a disrupted and bankrupt economy from the regime of Satan. Remnants of the former regime and their Western masters, and foremost of all world-devouring U.S. imperialism, by resorting to economic sanctions and military aggressions, provocation, subversion, terror and discord want to bring our nation to its knees, and to overthrow the Islamic Republican system. It is no exaggeration if we say that economic problems and the acute welfare needs of the people are among the main tools and elements in the hands of the counterrevolution and their American masters to implement various plots, provocations, obstructions and to create discontent among the members of our society. Securing the welfare of the people is directly connected to reviving the industrial and agricultural economy and to the economic development of society. As long as we are unable to overcome economic difficulties, maintaining the welfare of the people will be impossible. Reliance on oil income alone cannot last for a long period. The people expect the new government to place the maintenance of the general welfare, whether materially or spiritually, in the forefront of its program.

The second commentary was entitled: "Let Us Assist the Farmers in Gathering the Produce." It said: Our country's liberated farmers are engaged in gathering agricultural products. However, as we are aware, remnants of the former regime and agents of the feudalists and big landlords are creating numerous obstacles to the harvesting and gathering of agriculture products by resorting to various pretexts. Our country's farmers are still not safe from the attacks, plots, provocations and subversions of the elements and remnants of the former regime and feudalists. Every day the authorities receive complaints from the farmers regarding the injustices, provocations and subversions of the landowners and their servants, these enemies of the Iranian revolution and its gains.

In many cases the agents of the feudalists and big landowners set fire to the produce of the toiling farmers and thus make futile attempts to strike at the revolution. The enemies of the Iranian revolution in the villages strive, by resorting to any means, to force our country to import agricultural products as in the past, and to have the Iranian farmers live in hardship, as during the satanic regime. In such sensitive conditions one should rush to assist the farmers, especially now in the harvest season. All the active forces of society should arise to defend and safeguard the right of the toiling farmers and should cooperate with them in gathering the agricultural products. Recently the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an order, requested army personnel to render the necessary cooperation to the farmers in gathering agricultural products. This measure of the joint staff is a proper and timely measure that can serve as an example to other government and educational organizations for aiding the farmers. This is a national and patriotic duty which all should strive to implement.

12 Sep Commentary

TA122009 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 12 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "An End Should Be Put to the Violation of the Constitution's Principles. It said: More than a month and a half has passed since the statement by the prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic of Iran in which the occupation of the places and offices of the political parties and groups was regarded as illegal and contrary to the Constitution and the nation's interests. However, there is still no report on the evacuation of the places and offices of the true forces of the revolution. If the responsible officials had not shown negligence and procrastination in connection with the assaults of hooligan and club-wielding groups against the offices and places of political parties and groups and had carried out their legal duties, these club-wielders would not have dared to go into the streets every day and attack the ranks of the true forces of the revolution in all corners of the country.

We have repeatedly said and repeat again that attack on the offices of progressive political parties and organizations committed to the revolution is not only a violation of the Constitution but is an act that is beneficial to the counterrevolution. Such acts will bear no fruit except the creation of anarchy and the weakening of the country's organs. This is the same thing that U.S. imperialism and its fifth column in Iran desire and for whose implementation they are striving day and night. The people rightly say that it is very obvious that occupation of the offices of the parties and organizations committed to the revolution and assault on their members and followers is only to the benefit of the counterrevolution.

The great astonishment of the people is that, despite the obviousness of this fact, responsible officials have done nothing and are playing the role of a neutral observers. The country's three powers, headed by the president, are dutybound to carry out the explicit principles of the Constitution, and it is not clear how this silence can be justified. The people demand that irresponsible groups, various individuals and club-wielders evacuate the offices of all the political parties and organizations committed to the revolution as soon as possible and that the complete freedom of these organizations be ensured.

The second commentary was entitled: "An End Should Be Put to the Application of Discrimination With Regard to the Developing Countries, Including OPEC. It said: The United States and its NATO allies are exerting all their efforts to intensify the pressure of the international oil cartel on OPEC. As we are aware, the oil-producing countries that are members of this organization have recently taken steps to limit the activities of the oil cartel and to establish complete control over the production and export of their oil. The decisions of the OPEC member-states at the Algiers conference in this connection have aroused the wrath of Washington. After observing the negative reaction of the Arab oil-producing countries and our Islamic Republic regarding Israel's aggressive measure, the Americans decided to seek the aid of the EEC member-states in order to weaken the anti-monopolistic and anti-Israel policy of the OPEC countries.

The urgent visit of Thorn, the high-ranking official of the Common Market, to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and also the recent visit of British Foreign Secretary Carrington to Saudi Arabia are confirmation of this fact. The aim of Carrington's visit to Riyadh was completely obvious. He attempted to convince the Saudi regime that, allegedly, Britain is determined to defend Saudi Arabia's independence and national sovereignty against imaginary threats. After returning to London Carrington declared that should military clashes occur in the Persian Gulf, the Thatcher government would be prepared to use the British Armed Forces in support of the U.S. military forces. The aims of Thorn in his visit to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were nearly similar to those of Carrington's. He also assured the Saudi and Kuwaiti governments that, allegedly, the Common Market countries are not in agreement with Israel's measures regarding Jerusalem.

However, the practical measures of the countries of Western Europe in the international arena are proof of the fact that these countries support the position of the United States regarding the Middle East crisis and particularly in connection with Jerusalem. Mr Thorn's visit was, in fact, a maneuver to console the leaders of Arab countries and to preserve the West's oil interests in the Persian Gulf.

At the same time the United States is striving to use China also to confront and compete with the OPEC countries in the international market. In this connection China intends to supply Japan with a large quantity of oil. As we are aware the special session of the UN General Assembly has strongly criticized the domineering economic policy of the West, foremost of all that of the United States, and confirmed that these countries are endeavoring to preserve their neo-colonialist policy in economic and trade relations with the developing countries, including OPEC. The participants in this special session demanded that an end should be put to the policy of applying economic discrimination and imposition by capitalist countries over developing countries.

13 Sep Commentary

GF141240 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 13 September carried a commentary entitled: "It Is a Loss to the Revolution To Deal Blows to the True Leftist Forces of the Revolution." It said: Based on historical experience, it is obvious to our nation that any time there have been increases in the amount of propaganda against the left a plot against our nation has been in the making. History proves this. We have given you examples of this before. Today, the attacks on the left have again increased and the situation is such that, contrary to the imam's wishes, some persons try to attack these forces and do not even hesitate to quote the Western press in their recitals.

About the time of the 19 August coup, the American and British press were carrying items about the Soviet Union reaching the warm waters of the Persian Gulf through Iran. At the same time, the Ba'thist regime was using its lackeys to repeat the same rubbish. In the meantime, the United States and Britain were preparing a plot. They knew that there was no communist threat to Iran and the Soviets had no designs on the Persian Gulf. Their aims were to keep public opinion off the track.

The followers of the school of "neither an Easterner nor a Westerner" think that to prove they are not pro-Western they have to attack the Soviet Union. To prove that they are anti-communist they feel they should attack the leftist forces or any organization that does not share the government's views. Some of these individuals use the attacks against leftist organizations as a means of moving toward the West. What can we say at a time when some members of the previous regime are still free to walk around and laugh at people? This is a time in which people like Qotbzadeh are taking bribes from the United States and no one is blaming them. The propaganda facilities of the government are being used by anyone who wants to attack leftist groups. However, they are not prepared to give the same facilities to those persons who are under attack by the authorities night and day. The policy of attacking the true leftist revolutionary forces--the followers of the anti-imperialist line of the imam--is a tragic policy and should be avoided before it is too late.

14 Sep Commentary

GF141911 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1800 GMT on 14 September carried a commentary entitled: "What Do the Villagers of Our Nation Expect From the Government of Mr Raja'i?" It said: Landless villagers of our nation are still waiting for land and water. The feudalists and big landowners do not stop harassing the villagers for a moment.

They will resort to any means to keep their power and would not hesitate to kill the villagers. We can cite many examples of their cooperation with the fifth column and Savakists. The true revolutionary forces, considering these facts, refer to these feudalists as the lackeys of U.S. imperialism and its fifth column in Iran and demand their immediate suppression. Millions of landless villagers expect the government of Raja'i to solve the problem of land to the advantage of the villagers.

U.S. imperialism, to strengthen its hold on our nation, used the cursed Mohammad Reza regime to ruin Iranian agriculture in such a way that even now we have to import some of our needs. U.S. imperialism has put Iran under an economic embargo to bring us down to our knees and forced its satellite Western countries to follow suit. If we were not determined to defend our Islamic Revolution, it might have succeeded. Land distribution and financial and technical help to farmers can, in a short period, release us from the need to import and result to economic independence.

Suppression of feudalists should be the priority task of the government. Khomeyni has repeatedly asked for a solution to this problem. The government of Raja'i can win the confidence of the working masses with such a program.

15 Sep Commentary

TA160952 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 15 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "OPEC and the Plots of the Oil Cartel and U.S. Imperialism" It said: The conference of the OPEC member-states has started its work in Vienna. The victory of our nation's glorious revolution, the overthrow of the former shah's regime and the establishment of the republican system have led to a marked transformation in the work of OPEC in connection with safeguarding the just interests of these countries in the face of the aggressions of the oil cartel. In the oil cartel the U.S. oil monopolies play the principle role. These plundering monopolies resort to any crime and plot to continue their plunder. Among the effective elements in the hands of these monopolies are puppet regimes dependent on imperialism, and foremost of all U.S. imperialism.

In the past, during the former shah's puppet regime, the Iranian OPEC representative, along with the representative of Saudi Arabia and other regimes dependent on the United States, played the role of the supporters of the oil cartel. With the overthrow of the hated satanic regime the balance of power in OPEC changed to the benefit of the member nations and countries of this organization. Now the representatives of our Islamic Republic are at the side of those representatives of those countries in OPEC like Libya and Algeria are aimed at further limiting the plundering operations of the oil cartel and toward exercising the right of national sovereignty in exploiting their natural resources and wealth at all levels.

Among the important and sensitive problems that face the OPEC member-states are setting production levels, the price of oil and the unit for calculating oil payments. In the past these problems were repeatedly discussed at the OPEC meetings also, but each time they were confronted by the obstructions of the puppet countries dependent on the United States, like Saudi Arabia. Attention should also be devoted to the fact that U.S. imperialism and the oil cartel, through their elements, are endeavoring to create a schism within OPEC and prevent unity of action of this organization. It is the duty of the progressive wing of OPEC, like our country, Libya, Algeria and others, to prevent imperialism and the oil cartel from implementing this plot.

The second commentary was entitled: "The Plots of U.S. Imperialism Continue." It said: Parallel with the demagogic efforts to release the American spy hostages through so-called negotiations, the Carter administration has not desisted from preparing military aggression against our country and preparing to implement a coup to overthrow the existing regime in Iran.

According to U.S. newspapers, the CIA is preparing to implement a coup through the hands of the fugitive remnants of the satanic regime and through its own elements and hirelings in Iran. According to the plan of the Pentagon and the CIA, a monarchical government is to be established outside our country, and the shah's eldest son is to be declared the shah of Iran. The implementation of this anti-Iranian plan has been entrusted to the traitor As-Sadat, and its executive pawns are Shahpur Bakhtiar, 'Ali Amini, Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, Hasan Nazih and other such ostentatious elements.

According to reports by Western newspapers, at their meetings in Paris the representatives of the fugitive remnants of the former regime reviewed details of a coup plot aimed at overthrowing the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran and establishing a government dependent on the United States. According to reliable sources, the fugitive counterrevolutionaries intend to implement their evil plan within the next 1 or 2 months. In order to coordinate the plots of the fugitive counterrevolutionaries against the revolution and gains of the Iranian nation, a so-called supreme council has also been established in which the leaders of all the main counterrevolutionary groups are represented. At the same time it is obvious that the counterevolutionaries residing abroad have pinned their main hope on the remnants of the satanic regime within our country who skillfully have preserved their positions in the country's administrative, security and military organizations. Moreover, as we are aware, military units formed from the Aryamehri fugitives are receiving the necessary training in Egypt, Israel and Oman to infiltrate our country and to carry our subversion and a coup plot.

One should not forget even for one moment that all these anti-Iranian plots are conceived by the Carter administration, the CIA and the Pentagon. The danger of a coup plot and the aggression that is aimed at our homeland by U.S. imperialism is a real danger. This danger should not and cannot be overlooked even for one moment. We should mobilize ourselves through revolutionary vigilance to confront and crush these plots and aggressions. "Our enemy is one, and that is U.S. imperialism. Those who, in order to divert our country's public opinion from the real danger, create illusive dangers and enemies for the Islamic Republic of Iran are either misled or are acting on the plan and order of the U.S. imperialists. It is the duty of our nation to be alert and not fall into the trap of these agents and elements. All the eternal power of our nation should be aimed at the struggle and battle against U.S. imperialism and its elements."

16 Sep Commentary

TA162004 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 16 September carried two commentaries.

The first commentary was entitled: "The Strengthening of the Toilers' Unity." It said: If we judge the truths and statements of responsible economic officials, today a large number of the industrial units of the country, despite the problems created by the capitalists dependent on their Western masters, have started functioning. Without any doubt the vigilant and aware toilers of our country have played an important role in this vital and important matter. These toilers are aware of the truth that the true enemy of all the toiling people and all the progressive anti-imperialist forces in U.S. imperialism. This black and insolent force cannot endure the independence and freedom of the Iranian nation and this is the reason why it is making all efforts to overthrow the Islamic Republic by making all its mercenaries either inside the country or abroad, from extreme rightists to extreme-leftists, enter the battle arena. The battle of our nation against counterrevolution and its U.S. masters is a battle for life or death, and the toilers are well aware of this fact. They know that by safeguarding the gains of the revolution, by thwarting the plots of counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism, our liberated nation will have a bright future, and it is for the sake of this bright future that every Iranian united around the revolution endures all the difficulties and shortcomings with revolutionary forbearance.

We can boldly say that the working class of our nation understands very well the essence of the imam's words that all the cries should be turned against the great Satan, the United States. The most obvious thing regarding the great and constructive efforts of the toilers of our nation is their unity of action. All the toilers disregarding their political, social and religious ideologies have always actively participated in these constructive efforts. These toilers have never been duped or influenced by counterrevolution and have always toiled to safeguard the revolutionary gains. In order to safeguard their unity they have organizations and trade unions at their disposal. But there are groups and elements in our country who, due to selfish and monopoly-seeking interests or due to political opportunism, try to create discord among the toilers. But we must not allow any group, under any pretext or mask, to hinder the unity of the working class.

Under the actual sensitive conditions the unity of the toilers is of utmost importance, whether to safeguard the gains of the revolution or to thwart the multifaceted U.S. imperialist plots or to see to the needs of our country's industry and economy.

The second commentary was entitled: "(?Let Us) Cut the Retirement Pensions of Anti-revolutionary Elements." It said: Mr Mohammad 'Ali Nobari, the representative of Nahavand, demanded in an open session of the Majlis that the situation of the retired living abroad be dealt with. We must point out that this is not the first time this problem has been set forth by representatives of the Majlis or people and forces united around the revolution. But unfortunately nothing has been done yet in this connection. The former regime abstained from paying retirement pensions to tens of thousands of struggling Iranians who lived for many years in different countries as political emigrants. But in the Islamic Republic of Iran it is not clear why this matter is not being attended to and the money of the nation is flowing abroad.

Recently the military revolutionary tribunal issued a statement saying that the salary of military pensioners living abroad would be cut off from the date of the implementation of this law. It was also stated that if any retired person returned to Iran, his records would be reviewed. The true forces of the revolution support this law and demand its implementation regarding all the pensioners living abroad.

After the victory of the revolution a large number of supporters of the former regime fled the country and as we are aware, these gentlemen continue receiving pensions while they are busy hatching plots. Our country has inherited a bankrupt economy and needs this currency for solving its shortcomings.

RAJA'I REPLIES TO KARMAL MESSAGE, DENOUNCES SOVIET OCCUPATION

WA171800 Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 28 Aug 80 pp 5, 6

[Text] A telegram from Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in reply to Babrak Karmal's congratulatory message, has been made available to PARS by the prime minister's public relations office. The text of the telegram reads as follows:

In the name of God, Your Excellency Babrak Karmal, your telegram of congratulation on the occasion of my premiership has been received at a time when a wave of grief has overtaken the people of our country because of our Muslim brothers' repression in Afghanistan. We are awaiting the day when the people of Afghanistan could determine their own destiny without interference by foreign powers, and I am certain that the Muslim people's struggle against colonial powers will achieve victory. I wish success and unity for all oppressed people of the world. Signed, Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i

As it can be noted in the text of the cable, Raja'i has not acknowledged Babrak Karmal as Afghanistan's president, nor has he thanked him for his congratulatory telegram. This is probably an indication of the Raja'i administration's future policy vis-a-vis the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

BACKGROUND OF USSR CONSULAR PROBLEM AIRED

WA171102 Tehran TIMES 20 Aug 80 p 2

["Steps Leading to Closure of Iran's Leningrad Consulate"]

[Text] Tehran--An Iranian Foreign Ministry communique yesterday described the steps leading to the closure of the Iranian Consulate in Leningrad and the notice issued to the Soviet authorities for closure of the Soviet Consulates in Rasht or the one in Esfahan.

The communique said that Sadeq Qotbzadeh, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, summoned the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Tehran to the Foreign Ministry offices on August 17, and informed him of the foreign minister's decision to request the closure of one of the Soviet consulates in Rasht or Esfahan, and wanted the decision conveyed to the Soviet authorities in Moscow within a period of 24 hours.

On the same day the Soviet charge d'affaires was further asked to take steps as soon as possible in the matter of reducing the number of diplomatic and embassy personnel based in Tehran, the communique stated.

The request was not a new one and reflects a long simmering deterioration in relations between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic following accusations by Iran that the Soviet Government was rendering aid to the Iraqi regime.

Furthermore, the Soviets cold shouldered an Iranian request for the establishment of a consulate for Iran in Dushanbeh city in the Russian Province of Tadzhikistan or Tashkent, which have predominantly Moslem populations, in exchange for the closure of the Iranian Consulate at Leningrad.

Still another of the Iranian demands from the Soviets was the pulling out of their troops from Moslem Afghanistan, one that has gone unheeded in the wake of continuing Soviet hostilities and troop escalations for quelling the Afghan freedom movement.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry communique said that Dr. Mokri, Iran's ambassador in the Soviet Union had in the meantime on August 16, already arrived in Leningrad to make preparations for the closure of the consulate there.

It said that Dr. Mokri had held lengthly talks with the Soviet deputy foreign minister and other Soviet diplomatic authorities following the delivery of Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh's note to the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in which he stated Iran's position on relations with the Soviet Union in a frank and forthright manner.

Dr. Mokri repeating Qotbzadeh's assertions requested the transfer of the Leningrad Consulate once more to Dushanbeh in Tadzhikistan, or to the other predominantly Moslem city of Tashkent in the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan, a request that was apparently turned down.

The communique said that preparations had begun yesterday for closure of the Leningrad Consulate and arrangements were being made for the transfer of all personnel and notices issued to various Soviet political organizations in the city and cultural centers officially informing them of the closure. All foreign diplomatic missions in Leningrad were also informed of the Iran move.

It was not said what reciprocal measures were taken so far by the Soviet authorities in Iran as regards closure of one of their two consulates in Rasht or Esfahan.

OIL MINISTER MO'INFAR SUSPECTED OF SAVAK TIES

WA171042 Tehran TIMES in English 21 Aug 80 p 1

["Mo'infar Under Cloud"]

[Text] Tehran--Minister of oil, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, has been working for the late shah's secret service (SAVAK) as a consulting engineer, a Majlis deputy claimed yesterday.

Deputy Rashidian, told Majlis yesterday morning that he knew of documents showing Mo'infar's connection with the dissolved SAVAK.

He also claimed that Mo'infar, has been in personal contact with one of the former chiefs of SAVAK, General Zanganch, over the details of the main headquarters of the hated secret police.

"I regard helping the construction of SAVAK's headquarter Deputy Rashidian said, "as serving the former regime and the disqualification for anybody who wants to be a Majlis deputy."

'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, is the deputy for Tehran in Islamic Majlis, as well.

Another deputy, Fouad Karimi, said helping the construction of SAVAK headquarter's and its torture chambers was as serious as acting as one of its informers.

"We deputies dismiss anybody who has informed for SAVAK only a few times," he said, "but we approve of the person who has helped the construction of its headquarters."

Defending Mo'infar, the chairman of Majlis' credentials committee, Dr. Yazdi, said Mo'infar's case had already been scrutinized by the committee which had found nothing against him.

Meanwhile, several Majlis deputies have accused Mo'infar, of being awarded Homayoun-5 medal by the late shah.

It is common knowledge that the late shah only awarded such medals to highly reliable officials in his government.

HAMADAN GOVERNOR TAKEN HOSTAGE BY YOUTHS

WA171104 Tehran TIMES 25 Aug 80 p 1

["Governor, Officials Taken Hostage Near Hamadan"]

[Text] Hamadan--Governor of the city Mohammad Ali Kenejad and several officers at the Governorate have been taken hostage by a group of youths here who have expressed dissatisfaction with the new governor's policies.

The governor, who has been recently appointed, had proposed certain plans for rural development, which the youth said should not be implemented for reasons which are still unclear.

A protest demonstration at the Governorate led to the youths entering the offices, holding the governor and several other officers within the premises and staying locked in the premises.

An earlier appeal by the governor brought a rival group of protestors to the office who kept shouting slogans of: "Long Live Khomeyni." They tried to break into the office and release the hostages, including the governor, but were prevented by Revolutionary Guards who did not want the situation to escalate.

The sit-in continues with no solution in sight as yet.

NATIONAL FRONT OFFICIAL WARNS AGAINST APATHY

WA170912 Tehran TIMES 25 Aug 80 p 1

["Hasibi Warns Against Increasing Apathy"]

(By Peyman Pezhman)

[Text] Tehran--A National Front veteran has warned of increasing apathy among the masses saying Iran's political situation resembled that under the late Mohammad Mossadeq.

Kazem Hasibi, a leading member of the Front and a former colleague of the late Dr. Mosadeq, in an exclusive interview with Tehran TIMES Saturday, said Iran was going through a very dangerous situation exactly like the situation under the late Mossadeq."

Mossadeq's government was overthrown by a U.S. supported coup which brought back the late shah into power in 1953.

He said the main cause of people's apathy and indifference was never ceasing provocations against prominent political figures and political groups and parties, which served no other purpose but increasing disappointment among the people.

He accused, Hassan Ayat, a leading member of the Islamic Republican Party and a Majlis deputy, of disparaging the late Mohammad Mossadeq whose main task was to serve Iran.

"When somebody like Ayat, keeps repeating that Mossadeq betrayed Iran, how do you expect our people not to be disappointed", he said.

Hasibi said those who believe that only the clergy had served Iran must change course, otherwise conflict would continue to increase in society.

Although carefully worded to avoid any misinterpretation Hasibi's call for more sense among Moslem fundamentalists must be seen as a long overdue reaction to recent attacks on patriotic elements of the National Front leadership.

Hasibi said he was extremely worried about a possible conciliation between the super-powers over Iran which would endanger "our national independence."

"Our first political priority must be to save the country," he said.

BAHAI LEADERS ARRESTED FOR PLOTTING

WA170812 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Aug 80 p 24

[Text] The nine members of the Bahai National Assembly, the executive body of this religious community which is considered heretical by the Shi'ite clergy, were arrested on 21 August in Iran. This was announced in a communique which was sent out on 26 August to various centers of this community abroad.

The communique avers that the charges made against the nine leaders that they took part in the recent attempted coup d'etat "were fabricated in every respect".

"Nevertheless--the text adds--on many occasions, the Bahai community of Iran has proclaimed its loyalty to the ruling authorities and has made it known that, according to the principles of the Bahai faith, its members are forbidden to take part in any political or subversive activities. As under former regimes, the Bahais are serving as scapegoats, are still the target of false accusations, being jailed arbitrarily, and even executed by groups claiming to represent the authorities of the Islamic Republic."

The Bahai community of France has sent to President Bani-Sadr and Prime Minister Raja'i cables demanding that their co-religionists be released and that everyone be guaranteed "freedom of religion".